



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 317

January Session, 2007

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1400

Senate, April 4, 2007

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (13) of subsection (a) of section 14-1 of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (13) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a vehicle designed or used
5 to transport passengers or property, except a vehicle used for farming
6 purposes in accordance with 49 CFR 383.3(d), fire fighting apparatus
7 or an emergency vehicle, as defined in section 14-283, or a recreational
8 vehicle in private use, which (A) has a gross vehicle weight rating of
9 twenty-six thousand and one pounds or more, or a gross combination
10 weight rating of twenty-six thousand and one pounds or more,
11 inclusive of a towed unit or units with a gross vehicle weight rating of
12 more than ten thousand pounds; (B) is designed to transport sixteen or
13 more passengers, including the driver, or is designed to transport more
14 than ten passengers, including the driver, and is used to transport

15 students under the age of twenty-one years to and from school; or (C)
16 is transporting hazardous materials and is required to be placarded in
17 accordance with 49 CFR 172, Subpart F, as amended, or any quantity of
18 a material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 CFR Part 73.

19 Sec. 2. Subdivision (24) of subsection (a) of section 14-1 of the
20 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
21 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

22 (24) "Employee" means any operator of a commercial motor vehicle,
23 including full-time, regularly employed drivers, casual, intermittent or
24 occasional drivers, drivers under contract and independent [] owner-
25 operator contractors, who, while in the course of operating a
26 commercial motor vehicle, are either directly employed by, or are
27 under contract to, an employer.

28 Sec. 3. Subdivision (50) of subsection (a) of section 14-1 of the
29 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
30 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

31 (50) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any
32 nonmuscular power, except aircraft, motor boats, road rollers, baggage
33 trucks used about railroad stations or other mass transit facilities,
34 electric battery-operated wheel chairs when operated by physically
35 handicapped persons at speeds not exceeding fifteen miles per hour,
36 golf carts operated on highways solely for the purpose of crossing
37 from one part of the golf course to another, golf-cart-type vehicles
38 operated on roads or highways on the grounds of state institutions by
39 state employees, agricultural tractors, farm implements, such vehicles
40 as run only on rails or tracks, self-propelled snow plows, snow blowers
41 and lawn mowers, when used for the purposes for which they were
42 designed and operated at speeds not exceeding four miles per hour,
43 whether or not the operator rides on or walks behind such equipment,
44 bicycles with helper motors as defined in section 14-286, special mobile
45 equipment as defined in subsection (i) of section 14-165, [mini-
46 motorcycle] mini-motorcycles, as defined in section 14-289j, and any
47 other vehicle not suitable for operation on a highway.

48 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 14-65i of the general statutes is
49 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
50 *passage*):

51 (a) Each motor vehicle repair shop shall prominently display a sign
52 [24] twenty-four inches by [36] thirty-six inches in each area of its
53 premises where work orders are placed by customers. The sign, which
54 shall be in boldface type, shall read as follows:

55 THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS LICENSED WITH THE

56 STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

57 EACH CUSTOMER IS ENTITLED TO...

58

59 1. A WRITTEN ESTIMATE FOR REPAIR WORK.

60 2. A DETAILED INVOICE OF WORK DONE AND PARTS SUPPLIED.

61 3. RETURN OF REPLACED PARTS, PROVIDED THE REQUEST IS
62 MADE AT THE TIME WRITTEN OR ORAL AUTHORIZATION IS
63 PROVIDED FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED.

64

65 NO REPAIR WORK MAY BE UNDERTAKEN ON A VEHICLE
66 WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE CUSTOMER.

67 NO CHARGES FOR REPAIR MAY BE MADE IN EXCESS OF THE

68 WRITTEN ESTIMATE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN OR ORAL
69 CONSENT OF THE CUSTOMER.

70 _____

71 QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ABOVE SHOULD BE DIRECTED
72 TO THE MANAGER OF THIS REPAIR FACILITY.

73 UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS REGARDING SERVICE WORK MAY BE
74 SUBMITTED TO:

75 _____

76 DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

77 DEALER REPAIR DIVISION

78 60 STATE STREET, WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

79 TELEPHONE:

80 HOURS OF OPERATION:

81 Sec. 5. Subsection (f) of section 14-289j of the general statutes is
82 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
83 *passage*):

84 (f) No person may offer a mini-motorcycle for sale, lease or rent [a
85 mini-motorcycle] unless such mini-motorcycle has a warning label that
86 gives warning information about the safe and legal use of a mini-
87 motorcycle and about the limitations on use and the possible
88 consequences of use in violation of such limitations, set forth in

89 subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this section. Such person, on sale,
90 lease or rent of a mini-motorcycle, shall give a written clear and
91 conspicuous statement, separate from the warning label, to the
92 purchaser, lessee or renter of such mini-motorcycle containing such
93 warning information. Advertisements for mini-motorcycles and oral
94 communications of a person offering a mini-motorcycle for sale, lease
95 or rent [a mini-motorcycle] shall not contain information inconsistent
96 with any information required in this section. Until regulations
97 required in subsection (g) of this section are adopted, persons offering
98 a mini-motorcycle for sale, lease or rent [of a mini-motorcycle] shall
99 display such warning information, advertise and make oral
100 communications in a manner consistent with the provisions of this
101 section. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any person
102 selling fewer than five used mini-motorcycles in one calendar year,
103 provided any person claiming inapplicability of the provisions of this
104 subsection shall have the burden of proving such inapplicability.

105 Sec. 6. Subsection (e) of section 14-10 of the general statutes is
106 repealed and the following is substituted thereof (*Effective October 1,*
107 *2007*):

108 (e) In the event (1) a federal court judge, federal court magistrate or
109 judge of the Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme Court of the
110 state, (2) a member of a municipal police department or a member of
111 the Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety, (3)
112 an employee of the Department of Correction, (4) an attorney-at-law
113 who represents or has represented the state in a criminal prosecution,
114 [or] (5) a member or employee of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, (6)
115 a state or federal probation officer, (7) a federal law enforcement officer
116 who works and resides in this state, as recognized by the
117 commissioner, or (8) an other state law enforcement officer, as
118 recognized by the commissioner submits a written request and
119 furnishes such individual's business address to the commissioner, such
120 business address only shall be disclosed or available for public
121 inspection to the extent authorized by this section.

122 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 14-36g of the general statutes is
123 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
124 *October 1, 2007*):

125 (a) Each person who holds a motor vehicle operator's license and
126 who is sixteen or seventeen years of age shall comply with the
127 following requirements:

128 (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, for the
129 period of three months after the date of issuance of such license, such
130 person shall not transport more than (A) such person's parents or legal
131 guardian, at least one of whom holds a motor vehicle operator's
132 license, or (B) one passenger who is a driving instructor licensed by the
133 Department of Motor Vehicles, or a person twenty years of age or
134 older who has been licensed to operate, for at least four years
135 preceding the time of being transported, a motor vehicle of the same
136 class as the motor vehicle being operated and who has not had his or
137 her motor vehicle operator's license suspended by the commissioner
138 during such four-year period;

139 (2) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, for the
140 period beginning three months after the date of issuance of such
141 license and ending six months after the date of issuance of such license,
142 such person shall not transport any passenger other than as permitted
143 under subdivision (1) of this subsection and any additional member or
144 members of such person's immediate family;

145 (3) No such person shall operate any motor vehicle for which a
146 public passenger transportation permit is required in accordance with
147 the provisions of section 14-44, as amended by this act, or a vanpool
148 vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, as amended by this act;

149 (4) No such person shall transport more passengers in a motor
150 vehicle than the number of seat safety belts permanently installed in
151 such motor vehicle;

152 (5) [For a period of six months after the date of issuance of such

153 license, no] No such person issued a motorcycle endorsement shall
154 transport any passenger on a motorcycle for a period of six months
155 after the date of issuance; and

156 (6) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no such
157 person shall operate a motor vehicle on any highway, as defined in
158 section 14-1, as amended by this act, at or after midnight until and
159 including 5:00 a.m. of the same day unless (A) such person is traveling
160 for his or her employment or school or religious activities, (B) there is a
161 medical necessity for such travel, or (C) such person is an assigned
162 driver in a Safe Ride program sponsored by the American Red Cross,
163 the Boy Scouts of America or other national public service
164 organization.

165 Sec. 8. Section 14-289a of the general statutes is repealed and the
166 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

167 A person operating a motorcycle shall ride only upon the
168 permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall
169 not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a
170 motorcycle unless such motorcycle is properly equipped to carry more
171 than one person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the
172 permanent and regular seat if designed for two persons, or upon
173 another seat firmly attached to the rear or side of the operator. No
174 operator of a motorcycle who has not held [a license] an endorsement
175 to operate a motorcycle for a period of three months shall carry any
176 other person on such motorcycle, except that any sixteen or seventeen-
177 year-old shall not transport any passenger on a motorcycle for a period
178 of six months after obtaining such endorsement. Violation of any
179 provision of this section shall be an infraction.

180 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 14-44e of the general statutes is
181 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
182 *October 1, 2007*):

183 (b) The commissioner shall not issue a commercial driver's license or
184 a commercial driver's instruction permit to any person who has a

185 physical or psychobehavioral impairment that affects such person's
186 ability to operate a commercial motor vehicle safely. In determining
187 whether to issue a commercial driver's license in any individual case,
188 the commissioner shall apply the standards set forth in 49 CFR 391.41,
189 as amended. [, unless it is established that the person will operate such
190 vehicle only in this state, in which case the commissioner shall apply
191 the standards set forth in this chapter and in regulations adopted
192 thereunder.] Any person who is denied a commercial driver's license
193 or a commercial driver's permit, or whose license or permit is
194 suspended, revoked or cancelled pursuant to this subsection shall be
195 granted an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions
196 of chapter 54.

197 Sec. 10. Section 14-103a of the general statutes is repealed and the
198 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

199 Any motor vehicle, that has been reconstructed, or is composed or
200 assembled from the several parts of other motor vehicles, or the
201 identification and body contours of which are so altered that the
202 vehicle no longer bears the characteristics of any specific make of
203 motor vehicle, or declared a total loss by any insurance carrier and
204 subsequently [rebuilt,] reconstructed shall be inspected by the
205 commissioner to determine whether the vehicle is properly equipped,
206 in good mechanical condition and in the possession of its lawful
207 owner. Such vehicle shall be presented for inspection at any
208 Department of Motor vehicles office or any official emissions
209 inspection station authorized by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
210 to conduct such inspection. The commissioner may require any person
211 presenting any such reassembled, altered or [rebuilt] reconstructed
212 vehicle for inspection to provide proof of lawful purchase of any major
213 component parts not part of the vehicle when first sold by the
214 manufacturer. The fee for such inspection shall be eighty-eight dollars.
215 The inspection fee shall be in addition to regular registration fees. All
216 moneys received from the fee imposed pursuant to this section and
217 collected at an official emissions inspection station shall be deposited
218 in a separate safety inspection account within the Emissions Inspection

219 Fund. As used in this section, "reconstructed" refers to every motor
220 vehicle materially altered from its original construction by the
221 removal, addition or substitution of essential parts, new or used.

222 Sec. 11. Section 14-163d of the general statutes is repealed and the
223 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

224 (a) At least once every six months, each owner of a motor vehicle
225 described in subsection (a) of section 14-163c shall file with the
226 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles evidence that the owner has in effect
227 the security requirements imposed by law for each such motor vehicle.
228 The evidence shall be filed in such form as the commissioner
229 prescribes in accordance with a schedule established by the
230 commissioner. At least once every two years, the evidence of security
231 shall be accompanied by a motor carrier identification report that
232 meets the requirements of 49 CFR 390.19, as amended from time to
233 time. The report shall be in such form as the commissioner prescribes.

234 (b) In addition to other penalties provided by law, the
235 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, after notice and opportunity for
236 hearing in accordance with chapter 54, shall suspend the registration
237 of each motor vehicle registered in the name of any owner who fails to
238 file a motor carrier identification report or to provide satisfactory
239 evidence of the security requirements imposed by law.

240 (c) Each filing made in accordance with the provisions of subsection
241 (a) of this section by each for-hire motor carrier or private motor
242 carrier of property or passengers, and each owner of any motor vehicle
243 that transports hazardous materials, as described in subsection (a) of
244 section 14-163c shall provide satisfactory evidence of insurance
245 coverage or other security in amounts not less than are required by the
246 provisions of Title 49, Part 387 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as
247 amended. Such requirement concerning the amount of security that
248 must be evidenced to the commissioner may be made applicable by the
249 commissioner to the initial registration of any such motor vehicle,
250 including the registration of any motor vehicle under the International
251 Registration Plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-34a.

252 Sec. 12. Section 14-261a of the general statutes is repealed and the
253 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

254 (a) A commercial vehicle combination may be operated [.] by any
255 person who holds [(1)] an endorsed commercial driver's license [, (2)]
256 or a CDL equivalent license [, (3) an endorsed class 1 license, or (4) an
257 operator's license issued by another state authorizing such person to
258 operate a commercial vehicle combination, together with an
259 endorsement issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in
260 accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section,] on
261 highways which are part of the National System of Interstate and
262 Defense Highways and those sections of the Federal-Aid Primary
263 System which are divided highways with four or more lanes and full
264 control of access, which highways and sections are designated by the
265 Secretary of the federal Department of Transportation pursuant to the
266 Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982, as amended, provided
267 the Commissioner of Transportation shall impose reasonable
268 restrictions consistent with federal law. The Commissioner of
269 Transportation may permit the operation of a commercial vehicle
270 combination, defined as "specialized equipment" in the Code of
271 Federal Regulations Title 23, Part 658, as amended, by any person
272 holding a license to operate a commercial vehicle combination as
273 provided in this section and semitrailers, as described in subsection (c)
274 of section 14-262, on any other highway in order to allow the vehicle
275 reasonable access to terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest,
276 and points of loading and unloading for household goods carriers. If a
277 commercial vehicle combination consists of two semitrailers or a trailer
278 drawing a semitrailer, such trailers shall be coupled by a converter
279 dolly or a type of dolly approved by the Commissioner of Motor
280 Vehicles.

281 [(b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall establish an
282 endorsement for persons who are eligible to operate a commercial
283 vehicle combination but do not hold an endorsed commercial driver's
284 license, a CDL equivalent license, or a class 1 license. To obtain such
285 endorsement, the operator shall demonstrate personally to the

286 commissioner, his deputy, a motor vehicle inspector or an agent of the
287 commissioner that he (1) has held a license issued by another state for
288 at least three years which permits him to operate a commercial vehicle
289 combination, (2) has a level of motor vehicle operating experience
290 satisfactory to the commissioner, including but not limited to, passing
291 a commercial vehicle combination driving test conducted by the
292 commissioner, and (3) has not violated any of the provisions of section
293 14-219, 14-222 or 14-224 or subsection (a) of section 14-227a, or any
294 similar provisions of the laws of any other state or any territory, within
295 a three-year period, or been convicted of, or forfeited any bond taken
296 for appearance for, or had his case nolleed upon payment of any sum of
297 money in connection with, or received a suspended judgment or
298 sentence for, a violation of any of said provisions within a three-year
299 period, or a second violation within a twelve-month period of the
300 provisions of sections 14-230 to 14-249, inclusive, or of any similar
301 provisions of the laws of any other state or any territory, or been held
302 or found criminally responsible in connection with any motor vehicle
303 accident resulting in the death of any person, provided the
304 commissioner may waive the requirement of a driving test under
305 subdivision (2) of this subsection for any applicant for an endorsement
306 who demonstrates to the commissioner that he has had at least three
307 years experience in operating commercial vehicle combinations or that
308 he held a valid class 1A license on June 1, 1989. Each person holding a
309 valid class 1A license on June 1, 1989, shall, not later than December 31,
310 1989, surrender such license to the commissioner who shall thereupon
311 issue an endorsement to such person.

312 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall establish a
313 commercial vehicle combination safety inspection program under
314 which each commercial vehicle combination subject to safety
315 inspection shall be examined or tested with respect to the operation,
316 condition or performance of its brakes, tires, wheels, mirrors, operating
317 controls, glazing, lighting devices, suspension, steering, exhaust
318 system and electrical system. After the initial inspection of each
319 commercial vehicle combination, the commissioner shall provide for a
320 system of staggered annual inspections for such vehicles.

321 (2) On and after July 14, 1984, no commercial vehicle combination
322 shall be operated in the state unless it displays a currently valid
323 certificate of inspection issued under this section or an equivalent
324 certificate issued by another state, provided (A) any vehicle which is
325 subject to registration and inspection in the state and which has been
326 outside the state continuously for thirty days or more and which, at the
327 time of reentering the state, does not bear a currently valid certificate
328 of inspection may be operated in the state for a period of ten days after
329 reentering the state, (B) any vehicle may be operated in the state for a
330 period of ten days after its sale or resale, and (C) the Commissioner of
331 Motor Vehicles may allow commercial combination vehicles to operate
332 while displaying a certificate of inspection on the tractor portion of
333 such vehicle only, provided the person, firm, corporation or
334 association which operates such vehicle has established a preventive
335 maintenance program approved by the commissioner.

336 (d) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in
337 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the purposes
338 of this section.]

339 [(e)] (b) Any person operating a commercial vehicle combination or
340 a semitrailer, as described in subsection (c) of section 14-262, in
341 violation of any provision of subsection (a) [, (b) or (c)] of this section
342 [or any regulation adopted thereunder] shall be fined one thousand
343 dollars for each offense. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall
344 also suspend, for sixty days, the motor vehicle registration certificate,
345 privilege to operate or operator's license of any such person.

346 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) The Department of Motor
347 Vehicles shall require each external applicant for a position of
348 employment with the department (1) to state whether the applicant
349 has ever been convicted of a crime, to state whether criminal charges
350 are pending against the applicant at the time of the application and, if
351 so, to identify the charges and court in which they are pending, and (2)
352 if offered employment with the department, to be fingerprinted and to
353 submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The

354 criminal history records checks required by this section shall be in
355 accordance with section 29-17a of the general statutes.

356 Sec. 14. Section 15-148 of the general statutes is repealed and the
357 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

358 If a valid certificate of number or registration is lost, mutilated or
359 destroyed, the owner shall notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
360 in writing within fifteen days. The owner may obtain a duplicate
361 certificate upon application to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
362 and upon payment of a fee of [one dollar] twenty dollars.

363 Sec. 15. Section 14-12h of the general statutes is repealed and the
364 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

365 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall compile and maintain
366 a record of all registrations suspended in accordance with the
367 provisions of sections 14-12c and 14-12g. The commissioner shall
368 update the information contained in such record not less than once per
369 week and shall make available to all law enforcement agencies in this
370 state a list of all registration number plates for vehicles whose
371 registration has been suspended. Such list shall contain the number
372 plate numbers, letters or number and letter combinations and the
373 address at which the vehicle was registered. The commissioner may
374 make available the entire list or a portion thereof and may utilize one
375 or more formats for presenting the information contained therein to
376 facilitate its use.

377 (b) (1) If any police officer observes a motor vehicle being operated
378 upon the public highway, and such motor vehicle is displaying
379 registration number plates identified as suspended on the list made
380 available by the commissioner, such police officer may (A) stop or
381 detain such vehicle and its occupants, (B) issue to the operator a
382 complaint for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, or expired
383 registration if the vehicle is not being operated, in violation of section
384 14-12, and (C) remove the registration number plates from the vehicle
385 and return them to any branch office of the Department of Motor

386 Vehicles. If any police officer, motor vehicle inspector or constable
387 observes a motor vehicle parked in any parking area, as defined in
388 section 14-212, as amended by this act, and such motor vehicle is
389 displaying registration number plates identified as suspended on the
390 list made available by the commissioner, such police officer, motor
391 vehicle inspector or constable is authorized to remove the registration
392 number plates from the vehicle and to return them to any branch office
393 of the Department of Motor Vehicles. If a number plate is identified as
394 suspended on the list provided by the commissioner and such
395 identification is in error, the state shall indemnify any police officer,
396 motor vehicle inspector or constable for any claim for damages made
397 against that individual as a result of such individual's good faith
398 reliance on the accuracy of the list provided by the commissioner
399 regarding the confiscation of number plates.

400 (2) If any police officer observes a motor vehicle being operated
401 upon the public highway or parked in any parking area, as defined in
402 section 14-212, as amended by this act, displaying registration number
403 plates identified on the list made available by the commissioner as
404 being suspended, such police officer may seize and impound the
405 vehicle. If a police officer seizes and impounds a vehicle pursuant to
406 this subdivision, such officer shall give notice to the commissioner in
407 such form as the commissioner may require. The police officer shall
408 give such notice not later than three days after seizing and
409 impounding the vehicle.

410 [(c) If the number plates of a vehicle, the registration of which was
411 suspended, have been confiscated, the owner of such motor vehicle
412 shall pay a confiscation fee of fifty dollars. Such confiscation fee shall
413 be collected from the owner of the motor vehicle and remitted by the
414 commissioner to the constable who confiscated the number plates or, if
415 the plates were confiscated by a police officer, such confiscation fee
416 shall be remitted to the governmental entity which employed such
417 officer at the time of the confiscation and shall be deposited in the asset
418 forfeiture fund. In the event there is no such fund, such confiscation fee
419 shall be deposited in the general fund of such entity.]

420 [(d) The owner of any] (c) Any motor vehicle which has been
421 impounded in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of
422 subsection (b) of this section [shall not be eligible to regain possession
423 of the vehicle until he complies with the requirements of subsection (c)
424 of this section. Any such motor vehicle which is impounded for more
425 than forty-five days shall be subject to forfeiture to the state] that is not
426 reclaimed by the owner of such motor vehicle within forty-five days
427 after impounding, shall be subject to forfeiture to the state.

428 Sec. 16. Section 14-44i of the general statutes is repealed and the
429 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

430 (a) There shall be charged a fee of sixty dollars for each renewal of a
431 commercial driver's license.

432 (b) There shall be charged for each commercial driver's license
433 knowledge test a fee of sixteen dollars. There shall be charged for each
434 commercial driver's license skills test a fee of thirty dollars. There shall
435 be charged for each commercial driver's license learner's permit a fee
436 of ten dollars.

437 (c) There shall be charged, in addition to the fee provided in
438 subsection (b) of this section for the commercial driver's license
439 knowledge test, a fee of five dollars for each test for an endorsement to
440 a commercial driver's license. There shall be charged, in addition to the
441 fee provided in subsection (b) for such knowledge test, a fee of five
442 dollars for each test for the removal of a restriction to a commercial
443 driver's license relating to air brakes. There shall be charged, in
444 addition to the fee provided in subsection (b) for such knowledge test,
445 a fee of five dollars for each combination vehicle knowledge test.

446 [(d) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall waive the fees
447 provided in subsection (b) of this section in the case of any person who
448 applies for a license with a "Z" restriction.]

449 Sec. 17. Section 22a-201 of the general statutes is repealed and the
450 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

451 As used in sections 22a-201a to 22a-201c, inclusive:

452 (1) "Motor vehicle" means motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1,
453 except that for purposes of this section, motor vehicle is limited to
454 vehicles with gross vehicle weight rating, as defined in section 14-1, of
455 ten thousand pounds or less, and does not include any motorcycle; and

456 (2) "Greenhouse gas" means greenhouse gas, as defined in section
457 22a-200.

458 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) As used in section 21 of this
459 act, the term "full legal name" means the most complete version of the
460 name that appears on a person's certificate of birth, official passport or
461 other document or documents accepted by the Commissioner of Motor
462 Vehicles to verify the person's identity, unless the person presents a
463 marriage license or certificate, a certificate of civil union, a divorce
464 decree or an order of a court of competent jurisdiction pertaining to a
465 permanent change of the person's name.

466 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) Each motor vehicle
467 operator's license issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in
468 accordance with section 14-36 of the general statutes and each identity
469 card issued by said commissioner in accordance with section 1-1h of
470 the general statutes shall contain the following: (1) The person's full
471 legal name, as defined in section 20 of this act; (2) the person's date of
472 birth; (3) the person's gender; (4) the person's height and eye color; (5)
473 the person's assigned operator's license or identity card number; (6) the
474 person's address of principle residence in this state; (7) the person's
475 signature; and (8) the person's color photograph or digital image.

476 (b) The commissioner shall provide that each such license or
477 identity card document contains physical security features designed to
478 prevent tampering, counterfeiting or duplication of the document.

479 (c) Each such document shall also contain one or more machine-
480 readable technology feature or component, including, but not limited
481 to, a bar code or magnetic strip.

482 Sec. 20. Section 14-36d of the general statutes is repealed and the
483 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

484 (a) [Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section and
485 subject to the provisions of section 14-41, the commissioner shall issue
486 a motor vehicle operator's license containing a picture of the licensee.
487 The license shall be of such form and content as the commissioner may
488 prescribe and shall be signed by the licensee.] The commissioner may
489 acquire, by lease or purchase, and install at offices of the Department
490 of Motor Vehicles and at such other locations where operator's licenses
491 are issued or renewed, such equipment as may be necessary to carry
492 out the provisions of this [section] chapter.

493 [(b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon the first
494 issuance of a motor vehicle operator's license to any person less than
495 twenty-one years of age, issue a license containing a picture of the
496 licensee. Such license shall indicate the date of such person's twenty-
497 first birthday, be of such form and content as the commissioner may
498 prescribe and be signed by the licensee.]

499 [(c)] (b) The commissioner may [issue a temporary license without a
500 picture of the licensee to out-of-state applicants, to members of the
501 armed forces and in such other situations as the commissioner finds
502 necessary, provided a temporary license shall be valid only until the
503 applicant has had time to appear and to have his picture taken and a
504 license containing his picture issued] provide for the renewal of any
505 motor vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity
506 card without personal appearance of the license holder, in
507 circumstances where the holder is a member of the armed forces, is
508 temporarily residing outside of this state for business or educational
509 purposes, or in other circumstances where, in the judgment of the
510 commissioner, such personal appearance would be impractical or pose
511 a significant hardship. The commissioner shall decline to issue any
512 such renewal without personal appearance if the commissioner is not
513 satisfied as to the reasons why the applicant cannot personally appear,
514 if the commissioner does not have the applicant's color photograph or

515 digital image on file, if satisfactory evidence of the identity of the
516 applicant has not been presented, or if the commissioner has reason to
517 believe that the applicant is no longer a legal resident of this state.

518 (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations to provide for the
519 renewal of the motor vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's
520 license or identity card of any person not identified in subsection (b) of
521 this section by mail or by electronic communication with the
522 Department of Motor Vehicles.

523 Sec. 21. Section 14-44 of the general statutes is repealed and the
524 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

525 (a) (1) No person shall operate a commercial motor vehicle used for
526 passenger transportation on any public highway of this state until [he]
527 such person has obtained a commercial driver's license with a
528 passenger endorsement from the commissioner, except a nonresident
529 who holds such license with such endorsement issued by another state.
530 (2) No person shall operate a school bus until [he] such person has
531 obtained a commercial driver's license with a school bus endorsement,
532 except that a person who holds such a license without such
533 endorsements may operate a school bus without passengers for the
534 purpose of road testing or moving the vehicle. (3) No person shall
535 operate a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212,
536 as amended by this act, activity vehicle, [camp vehicle,] taxicab, motor
537 vehicle in livery service, motor bus or service bus until [he] such
538 person has obtained an operator's license bearing an endorsement of
539 the appropriate type from the commissioner issued in accordance with
540 the provisions of this section and section 14-36a.

541 (b) No operator's license bearing an endorsement shall be issued or
542 renewed in accordance with the provisions of this section or section 14-
543 36a, until the commissioner, or his authorized representative, is
544 satisfied that the applicant is a proper person to receive such an
545 operator's license bearing an endorsement, holds a valid motor vehicle
546 operator's license, or, if necessary for the class of vehicle operated, a
547 commercial driver's license and is at least eighteen years of age. Each

548 applicant for [such a permit,] an operator's license bearing an
549 endorsement or the renewal of such a license shall furnish the
550 commissioner, or his authorized representative, with satisfactory
551 evidence, [which may be required to be] under oath, [to prove that he
552 has no] regarding such applicant's criminal record, that he has not
553 been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-227a, or has
554 not had an administrative license suspension under subsection (i) of
555 section 14-227b, within five years of the date of an original or renewal
556 application and that no reason exists for a refusal to grant or renew
557 such an operator's license bearing an endorsement. Each applicant for
558 such an operator's license bearing an endorsement shall submit with
559 [his] such application proof satisfactory to the commissioner that [he]
560 such person has passed a physical examination which has been taken
561 within ninety days prior to [his] the application, and which is in
562 compliance with safety regulations established from time to time by
563 the United States Department of Transportation. Each applicant for
564 renewal of such license shall present evidence that such applicant is in
565 compliance with the medical qualifications established in 49 CFR 391,
566 as amended. Each applicant for such an operator's license bearing an
567 endorsement shall be fingerprinted before the license bearing an
568 endorsement is issued.

569 (c) The commissioner may issue, withhold, renew, suspend, cancel
570 or revoke [,] any endorsement required to operate a motor vehicle that
571 transports passengers, as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-36a.
572 The commissioner may, in making his decision, consider the [age,
573 accident and] criminal record of the applicant or license holder,
574 including, but not limited to, the information provided in accordance
575 with provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of this section. In addition,
576 the commissioner may consider the age, driving history record,
577 accident record, moral character and physical condition of any such
578 applicant or endorsement holder and such other matters as the
579 commissioner may determine. The commissioner may require any
580 such applicant or endorsement holder to furnish the statements of two
581 or more reputable citizens, which may be required to be under oath,
582 vouching for the good character or other qualifications of the applicant

583 or endorsement holder.

584 (d) Upon the arrest of any person who holds an operator's license
585 bearing [a school endorsement charged with] an endorsement to
586 transport passengers who are students for a felony or violation of
587 [section] sections 53a-73a or 53a-63, the arresting officer or department,
588 within forty-eight hours, shall cause a report of such arrest to be made
589 to the commissioner. The report shall be made on a form approved by
590 the commissioner containing such information as the commissioner
591 prescribes. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance
592 with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this subsection.

593 (e) Prior to issuing an operator's license bearing [a school
594 endorsement] an endorsement to transport passengers who are
595 students, the commissioner shall require each applicant to submit to
596 state and national criminal history records checks, and a check of the
597 state child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k for
598 perpetrator information. The criminal history records checks required
599 pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with
600 section 29-17a. If notice of a state or national criminal history record or
601 notification that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of abuse on the
602 state child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k is
603 received, the commissioner may, subject to the provisions of section
604 46a-80, refuse to issue an operator's license bearing such endorsement
605 and, in such case, shall immediately notify the applicant, in writing, of
606 such refusal. [Subject to the provisions of section 46a-80, if notice of a
607 national criminal history record is received, the commissioner may
608 withdraw the operator's license bearing a school endorsement
609 immediately and, in such case, shall immediately notify the holder of
610 such license and the holder's employer, in writing, of such
611 withdrawal.]

612 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the
613 commissioner shall not issue an operator's license bearing an
614 endorsement to transport passengers who are students, and shall
615 suspend any such endorsement that has been issued, to any person

616 who has been convicted of a serious criminal offense, as determined by
617 the commissioner, or convicted of any provision of federal law or the
618 law of any other state, the violation of which involves conduct that is
619 substantially similar to a violation determined by the commissioner to
620 be a serious criminal offense, if any part of the sentence of such
621 conviction has not been completed, or has been completed during the
622 past five years. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in
623 accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this
624 subsection.

625 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) Any applicant who is refused an operator's license bearing
626 an endorsement or the renewal of such a license, or whose operator's
627 license bearing an endorsement or the renewal of such a license is
628 withdrawn or revoked on account of a criminal record, pursuant to
629 subsections (c), (e) or (f) of this section, shall be entitled to a hearing if
630 requested in writing within twenty days. The hearing shall be
631 conducted in accordance with the requirements of chapter 54 and the
632 applicant may appeal from the final decision rendered therein in
633 accordance with section 4-183.

634 (h) The commissioner shall deny the original or renewal application
635 for a license bearing an endorsement that contains false or
636 substantially inaccurate or incomplete information, including, but not
637 limited to, a failure to disclose on the application any matter pertaining
638 to a criminal arrest or conviction.

639 ~~[(g)]~~ (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-10, as
640 amended by this act, the commissioner may furnish to any board of
641 education or to any public or private organization that is actively
642 engaged in providing public transportation, including the
643 transportation of school children, a report containing the names and
644 motor vehicle operator license numbers of each person who has been
645 issued an operator's license with one or more endorsements,
646 authorizing such person to transport passengers in accordance with
647 the provisions of section 14-36a, but whose license or any such
648 endorsement has been withdrawn, suspended or revoked by the

649 commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this section, or any
650 other provision of this title. The report shall be issued and updated
651 periodically in accordance with a schedule to be established by the
652 commissioner. Such report may be transmitted or otherwise made
653 available to authorized recipients by electronic means.

654 [(h)] (j) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an
655 infraction.

656 Sec. 22. Subsection (c) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is
657 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
658 *October 1, 2007*):

659 (c) (1) On or after January 1, 1997, a person who is sixteen or
660 seventeen years of age and who has not had a motor vehicle operator's
661 license or right to operate a motor vehicle in this state suspended or
662 revoked may apply to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for a
663 learner's permit. The commissioner may issue a learner's permit to an
664 applicant after the applicant has passed a vision screening and test as
665 to knowledge of the laws concerning motor vehicles and the rules of
666 the road, has paid the fee required by subsection (v) of section 14-49
667 and has filed a certificate, in such form as the commissioner prescribes,
668 requesting or consenting to the issuance of the learner's permit and the
669 motor vehicle operator's license, signed by (A) one or both parents or
670 foster parents of the applicant, as the commissioner requires, (B) the
671 legal guardian of the applicant, (C) the applicant's spouse, if the
672 spouse is eighteen years of age or older, or (D) if the applicant has no
673 qualified spouse and such applicant's parent or foster parent or legal
674 guardian is deceased, incapable, domiciled without the state or
675 otherwise unavailable or unable to sign or file the certificate, the
676 applicant's stepparent, or uncle or aunt by blood or marriage, provided
677 such person is eighteen years of age or older. The commissioner may,
678 for the more efficient administration of the commissioner's duties,
679 appoint any drivers' school licensed in accordance with the provisions
680 of section 14-69 or any secondary school providing instruction in
681 motor vehicle operation and highway safety in accordance with section

682 14-36e to issue a learner's permit, subject to such standards and
683 requirements as the commissioner may prescribe in regulations
684 adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Each learner's permit shall
685 expire on the date the holder of the permit is issued a motor vehicle
686 operator's license or on the date the holder attains the age of eighteen
687 years, whichever is earlier. (2) The learner's permit shall entitle the
688 holder, while such holder has the permit in his or her immediate
689 possession, to operate a motor vehicle on the public highways,
690 provided such holder is under the instruction of, and accompanied by,
691 a person who holds an instructor's license issued under the provisions
692 of section 14-73 or a person twenty years of age or older who has been
693 licensed to operate, for at least four years preceding the instruction, a
694 motor vehicle of the same class as the motor vehicle being operated
695 and who has not had his or her motor vehicle operator's license
696 suspended by the commissioner during the four-year period preceding
697 the instruction. (3) For the period of three months after the date of
698 issuance of such permit, unless the holder is under the instruction of
699 and accompanied by a person who holds an instructor's license issued
700 under the provisions of section 14-73, the holder shall not transport
701 more than (A) one passenger who meets the provisions of subdivision
702 (2) of this subsection, or (B) such holder's parents or legal guardian, at
703 least one of whom holds a motor vehicle operator's license. (4) For the
704 period beginning three months after the date of issuance of such
705 permit and ending six months after the date of issuance of such permit,
706 unless the holder is under the instruction of and accompanied by a
707 person who holds an instructor's license issued under the provisions of
708 section 14-73, such holder shall not transport any passenger other than
709 as permitted under subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection and any
710 additional member or members of such holder's immediate family. (5)
711 The holder of a learner's permit who (A) is an active member of a
712 certified ambulance service, as defined in section 19a-175, (B) has
713 commenced an emergency vehicle operator's course that conforms to
714 the national standard curriculum developed by the United States
715 Department of Transportation, and (C) has had state and national
716 criminal history records checks conducted by the certified ambulance

717 service or by the municipality in which such ambulance service is
718 provided, shall be exempt from the provisions of [this subdivision]
719 subdivisions (2), (3) and (4) of this subsection only when such holder is
720 en route to or from the location of the ambulance for purposes of
721 responding to an emergency call. [(3)] (6) The commissioner may
722 revoke any learner's permit used in violation of the limitations
723 imposed by subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of this subsection.

724 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 14-37a of the general statutes is
725 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
726 *October 1, 2007*):

727 (a) Any person whose operator's license has been suspended
728 pursuant to any provision of this chapter or chapter 248, except
729 pursuant to section 14-215 for operating under suspension or pursuant
730 to section 14-140 for failure to appear for [trial] a scheduled court
731 appearance, or pursuant to section 53a-56b for a conviction of
732 manslaughter with a motor vehicle, may make application to the
733 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for a special permit to operate a
734 motor vehicle to and from such person's place of employment or, if
735 such person is not employed at a fixed location, to operate a motor
736 vehicle only in connection with, and to the extent necessary, to
737 properly perform such person's business or profession.

738 Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 14-66 of the general statutes is
739 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
740 *October 1, 2007*):

741 (a) (1) No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of
742 operating a wrecker for the purpose of towing or transporting for
743 compensation motor vehicles which are disabled, inoperative or
744 wrecked or are being removed in accordance with the provisions of
745 section 14-145, 14-150 or 14-307, unless such person, firm or
746 corporation is a motor vehicle dealer or repairer licensed under the
747 provisions of subpart (D) of this part. (2) The commissioner shall
748 establish and publish a schedule of uniform rates and charges for the
749 nonconsensual towing and transporting of motor vehicles and for the

750 storage of motor vehicles which shall be just and reasonable. Upon
751 petition of any person, firm or corporation licensed in accordance with
752 the provisions of this section, but not more frequently than once every
753 two years, the commissioner shall reconsider the established rates and
754 charges and shall amend such rates and charges if the commissioner,
755 after consideration of the factors stated in this subdivision, determines
756 that such rates and charges are no longer just and reasonable. In
757 establishing and amending such rates and charges, the commissioner
758 may consider factors, including, but not limited to, the Consumer Price
759 Index, rates set by other jurisdictions, charges for towing and
760 transporting services provided pursuant to a contract with an
761 automobile club or automobile association licensed under the
762 provisions of section 14-67 and rates published in standard service
763 manuals. The commissioner shall hold a public hearing for the purpose
764 of obtaining additional information concerning such rates and charges.
765 (3) With respect to the nonconsensual towing or transporting and the
766 storage of motor vehicles, no such person, firm or corporation shall
767 charge more than the rates and charges published by the
768 commissioner. Any person aggrieved by any action of the
769 commissioner under the provisions of this section may take an appeal
770 therefrom in accordance with section 4-183, except venue for such
771 appeal shall be in the judicial district of New Britain.

772 Sec. 25. Subsection (h) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is
773 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
774 *October 1, 2007*):

775 (h) (1) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall,
776 for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be
777 fined not less than seventy-five dollars or more than ninety dollars
778 and, for any subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than two
779 hundred fifty dollars or more than three hundred fifty dollars or be
780 imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both.

781 (2) In addition to the penalty prescribed under subdivision (1) of
782 this subsection, any person who violates any provision of this section

783 who (A) has, prior to the commission of the present violation,
784 committed a violation of this section or subsection (a) of section 14-215,
785 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or sentenced to
786 perform not more than one hundred hours of community service, or
787 (B) has, prior to the commission of the present violation, committed
788 two or more violations of this section or subsection (a) of section 14-
789 215, or any combination thereof, shall be sentenced to a term of
790 imprisonment of [ninety days which may not be suspended or reduced
791 in any manner] one year, ninety days of which may not be suspended
792 or reduced in any manner.

793 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 14-215 of the general statutes is
794 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
795 *October 1, 2007*):

796 (c) Any person who operates any motor vehicle during the period
797 such person's operator's license or right to operate a motor vehicle in
798 this state is under suspension or revocation on account of a violation of
799 subsection (a) of section 14-227a or section 53a-56b or 53a-60d or
800 pursuant to section 14-227b, shall be fined not less than five hundred
801 dollars or more than one thousand dollars and imprisoned not more
802 than one year, and, in the absence of any mitigating circumstances as
803 determined by the court, thirty consecutive days of the sentence
804 imposed may not be suspended or reduced in any manner. For a
805 violation that occurs while any person is under suspension for a
806 second violation of any of the offenses specified in this section, such
807 person shall be imprisoned for not more than two years, and in the
808 absence of any mitigating circumstances as determined by the court,
809 one hundred twenty consecutive days of the sentence imposed may
810 not be suspended or reduced in any manner. For a violation that
811 occurs while any person is under suspension for a third or subsequent
812 violation of any of the offenses specified in this section, such person
813 shall be imprisoned for not more than three years, and in the absence
814 of any mitigating circumstances as determined by the court, one year
815 of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced in any
816 manner. The court shall specifically state in writing for the record the

817 mitigating circumstances, or the absence thereof.

818 Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Motor
819 Vehicles, at the request of any immediate family member, shall issue a
820 special certificate of registration and a set of number plates
821 memorializing Connecticut service members who were killed in the
822 line of duty. Said registration and number plates shall be available for
823 any motor vehicle owned or leased for a period of at least one year.
824 Said number plates shall expire and be renewed as provided in section
825 14-22 of the general statutes. The commissioner shall charge a fee for
826 such plates which shall cover the entire cost of making the same and
827 which shall be in addition to the fee for registration of such motor
828 vehicle. Such plates shall bear the words "Gold Star Family", and the
829 design of such plates shall be approved by a committee established by
830 the commissioner. For purposes of this section, "immediate family
831 member" includes a spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, child,
832 grandmother or grandfather.

833 Sec. 28. Subsection (b) of section 14-80i of the general statutes is
834 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
835 *1, 2007*):

836 (b) No person shall operate a motorcycle on a highway or in any
837 parking area for ten or more motor vehicles if the motorcycle is
838 equipped with handlebars that are more than the height of the
839 operator's shoulders. [fifteen inches in height above the uppermost
840 portion of the seat when the seat is depressed by the weight of the
841 operator.]

842 Sec. 29. Subsection (c) of section 14-300 of the general statutes is
843 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
844 *1, 2007*):

845 (c) Except as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-300c, at any
846 crosswalk marked as provided in subsection (a) of this section or any
847 unmarked crosswalk, provided such crosswalks are not controlled by
848 police officers or traffic control signals, each operator of a vehicle shall

849 grant the right-of-way, and slow or stop such vehicle if necessary to so
850 grant the right-of-way, to any pedestrian crossing the roadway within
851 such crosswalk, provided such pedestrian steps [to] off the curb or into
852 the crosswalk at the entrance to a crosswalk or is within that half of the
853 roadway upon which such operator of a vehicle is traveling or such
854 pedestrian steps [to] off the curb or into the crosswalk at the entrance
855 to a crosswalk or is crossing the roadway within such crosswalk from
856 that half of the roadway upon which such operator is not traveling. No
857 operator of a vehicle approaching from the rear shall overtake and
858 pass any vehicle the operator of which has stopped at any crosswalk
859 marked as provided in subsection (a) of this section or any unmarked
860 crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway. The operator of
861 any vehicle crossing a sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to each
862 pedestrian and all other traffic upon such sidewalk. [A violation of this
863 subsection shall be an infraction] The operator of any motor vehicle
864 who violates this section shall be deemed to have committed an
865 infraction and shall be fined not less than ninety dollars.

866 Sec. 30. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Motor Vehicles
867 shall conduct a study on issues relating to the use by operators of
868 motor vehicles of certain electronic equipment installed in motor
869 vehicles, including word processors, computer video monitors, devices
870 that enable access to the Internet, and other electronic equipment of a
871 similar nature that is unrelated to the operation of motor vehicles. The
872 study shall include, but not be limited to, (1) the extent to which such
873 electronic equipment is being offered as original equipment by
874 manufacturers and importers of new motor vehicles that are sold in
875 this state, (2) federal statutes and regulations that govern the
876 manufacture of motor vehicles sold in the United States that refer to
877 the installation of such equipment, (3) the extent to which such
878 equipment is being offered and sold for aftermarket installation in
879 used motor vehicles, (4) recent studies and other published materials
880 concerning the use of such equipment by operators and its effect on the
881 safe highway operation of motor vehicles, and (5) laws of any state, the
882 District of Columbia, or any state or province of any country that
883 govern any aspect of the original or aftermarket installation or the use

884 by operators of such equipment. Not later than February 1, 2008, the
885 commissioner shall submit a report of the study, including findings
886 and recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the General
887 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation.

888 Sec. 31. Section 14-49 of the general statutes is repealed and the
889 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

890 (a) For the registration of each passenger motor vehicle, other than
891 an electric motor vehicle, the fee shall be seventy-five dollars every
892 two years, provided any individual who is sixty-five years of age or
893 older on or after January 1, 1981, may, at his discretion, renew the
894 registration of such passenger motor vehicle owned by him for either a
895 one-year or two-year period. The fee for one year shall be thirty-eight
896 dollars, and the fee for two years shall be seventy-five dollars;
897 provided the biennial fee for any motor vehicle for which special
898 license plates have been issued under the provisions of section 14-20
899 shall be seventy-five dollars. The provisions of this subsection relative
900 to the biennial fee charged for the registration of each antique, rare or
901 special interest motor vehicle for which special license plates have
902 been issued under section 14-20 shall not apply to an antique fire
903 apparatus or transit bus owned by a nonprofit organization and
904 maintained primarily for use in parades, exhibitions or other public
905 events but not for purposes of general transportation.

906 (b) (1) For the registration of each motorcycle, the biennial fee shall
907 be forty dollars, subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this
908 subsection. For the registration of each motorcycle with side car or box
909 attached used for commercial purposes, the biennial fee shall be fifty-
910 six dollars. The commissioner may register a motorcycle with a side
911 car under one registration which shall cover the use of such motorcycle
912 with or without such side car. (2) Four dollars of the total fee with
913 respect to the registration of each motorcycle shall, when entered upon
914 the records of the Special Transportation Fund, be deemed to be
915 appropriated to the Department of Transportation for purposes of
916 continuing the program of motorcycle rider education formerly

917 funded under the federal Highway Safety Act of 1978, 23 USC 402.

918 (c) For the registration of each taxicab or motor vehicle in livery
919 service, with a seating capacity of seven or less, the commissioner shall
920 charge a biennial fee of two hundred fifty dollars. When the seating
921 capacity of such motor vehicle is more than seven, there shall be added
922 to the amount herein provided the sum of four dollars for each seat so
923 in excess.

924 (d) For the registration of each motor bus, except a motor bus
925 owned and operated by a multiple-state passenger carrier as
926 hereinafter defined, the commissioner shall charge a fee of forty-seven
927 dollars and such registration shall be sufficient for all types of
928 operation under this chapter. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be
929 fifty-three dollars. For the registration of motor buses owned or
930 operated by a multiple-state passenger carrier, the commissioner shall
931 charge registration fees based on the rate of one dollar per
932 hundredweight of the gross weight, such gross weight to be computed
933 by adding the light weight of the vehicle fully equipped for service to
934 one hundred fifty pounds per passenger for the rated seating capacity,
935 plus the sum of thirty-four dollars, and on and after July 1, 1992, one
936 dollar and twenty-five cents plus the sum of thirty-nine dollars. The
937 fee in each case shall be determined on an apportionment basis
938 commensurate with the use of the highways of this state as herein
939 provided. The commissioner shall require the registration of that
940 percentage of the motor buses of such multiple-state passenger carrier
941 operating into or through the state which the mileage of such motor
942 buses actually operated in the state bears to the total mileage of all
943 such motor buses operated both within and without the state. Such
944 percentage figures shall be the mileage factor. In computing the
945 registration fees on the number of such motor buses which are
946 allocated to the state for registration purposes under the foregoing
947 formula, the commissioner shall first compute the amount that the
948 registration fees would be if all such motor buses were in fact subject
949 to registration in the state, and then apply to such amount the mileage
950 factor above referred to, provided, if the foregoing formula or method

951 of allocation results in apportioning a lesser or greater number of
952 motor buses or amount of registration fees to the state than the state
953 under all of the facts is fairly entitled to, then a formula that will fairly
954 apportion such registration fees to the state shall be determined and
955 used by the commissioner. Said mileage factor shall be computed prior
956 to March first of each year by using the mileage records of operations
957 of such motor buses operating both within and without the state for
958 the twelve-month period, or portion thereof, ending on August thirty-
959 first next preceding the commencement of the registration year for
960 which registration is sought. If there were no operations in the state
961 during any part of such preceding twelve-month period, the
962 commissioner shall proceed under the provisions of subsection (a) of
963 article IV of section 14-365. In apportioning the number of motor buses
964 to be registered in the state, as provided herein, any fractional part of a
965 motor bus shall be treated as a whole motor bus and shall be registered
966 and licensed as such. Any motor bus operated both within and
967 without the state which is not required to be registered in the state
968 under the provisions of this section shall nevertheless be identified as a
969 part of the fleet of the multiple-state passenger carrier and the
970 commissioner shall adopt an appropriate method of identification of
971 such motor buses owned and operated by such carrier. The
972 identification of all such motor buses by the commissioner as above
973 required shall be considered the same as the registration of such motor
974 buses under this chapter. The substitution from time to time of one
975 motor bus for another by a multiple-state passenger carrier shall not
976 require registration thereof in the state as long as the substitution does
977 not increase the aggregate number of motor buses employed in the
978 operation of such carrier, provided all such motor buses substituted for
979 others shall be immediately reported to and identification issued for
980 the same by the commissioner and, if a registration fee is required to
981 be paid for such substituted motor bus, the same shall be promptly
982 paid. As used in this subsection, the phrase "multiple-state passenger
983 carrier" means and includes any person, firm or corporation
984 authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission or its successor
985 agency to engage in the business of the transportation of passengers

986 for hire by motor buses, both within and without the state.

987 (e) (1) For the registration of a passenger motor vehicle used in part
988 for commercial purposes, except any pick-up truck having a gross
989 vehicle weight rating of less than twelve thousand five hundred
990 pounds, the commissioner shall charge a biennial fee of eighty-three
991 dollars and shall issue combination registration to such vehicle. (2) For
992 the registration of a school bus, the commissioner shall charge an
993 annual fee of one hundred dollars for a type I school bus and sixty
994 dollars for a type II school bus. (3) For the registration of a motor
995 vehicle when used in part for commercial purposes and as a passenger
996 motor vehicle or of a motor vehicle having a seating capacity greater
997 than ten and not used for the conveyance of passengers for hire, the
998 commissioner shall charge a biennial fee for gross weight as for
999 commercial registration, as outlined in section 14-47, plus the sum of
1000 thirteen dollars and shall issue combination registration to such
1001 vehicle. (4) Each vehicle registered as combination shall be issued a
1002 number plate bearing the word "combination". No vehicle registered as
1003 combination may have a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of
1004 twelve thousand five hundred pounds. (5) For the registration of a
1005 pick-up truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of less than twelve
1006 thousand five hundred pounds that is not used in part for commercial
1007 purposes, the commissioner shall charge a biennial fee for gross weight
1008 as for commercial registration, as provided in section 14-47, plus the
1009 sum of thirteen dollars. The commissioner may issue passenger
1010 registration to any such vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of
1011 eight thousand five hundred pounds or less.

1012 (f) For the registration of each electric motor vehicle, the
1013 commissioner shall charge a fee of fifteen dollars for each year or part
1014 thereof. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be eighteen dollars.

1015 (g) For the registration of all motorcycles, registered under a general
1016 distinguishing number and mark, owned or operated by, or in the
1017 custody of, a manufacturer of, dealer in or repairer of motorcycles,
1018 there shall be charged an annual fee at the rate of thirty-one dollars for

1019 each set of number plates furnished. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee
1020 shall be thirty-five dollars.

1021 (h) The minimum annual fee for any commercial registration of a
1022 motor vehicle not equipped with pneumatic tires shall be fifty dollars.
1023 On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be fifty-six dollars.

1024 (i) For the transfer of the registration of a motor vehicle previously
1025 registered, except as provided in subsection (e) of section 14-16 and
1026 subsection (d) of section 14-253a, there shall be charged a fee of twenty
1027 dollars.

1028 (j) Repealed by 1972, P.A. 255, S. 6.

1029 (k) For the registration of each motor hearse used exclusively for
1030 transportation of the dead, the commissioner shall charge a fee of
1031 thirty-one dollars. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be thirty-five
1032 dollars. The commissioner may furnish distinguishing number plates
1033 for any motor hearse.

1034 (l) The fee for the registration of each truck to be used between parts
1035 of an industrial plant, as provided in section 13a-117, shall be twenty-
1036 five dollars for the first two hundred feet of the public highway, the
1037 use of which is granted by such permit, and on and after July 1, 1992,
1038 the fee shall be twenty-eight dollars. For each additional two hundred
1039 feet or fraction thereof, the fee shall be eleven dollars, and on and after
1040 July 1, 1992, the fee shall be twelve dollars.

1041 (m) (1) For the registration of a trailer used exclusively for camping
1042 or any other recreational purpose, the commissioner shall charge a
1043 biennial fee of sixteen dollars. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be
1044 eighteen dollars. (2) For any other trailer or semitrailer not drawn by a
1045 truck-tractor he shall charge the same fee as prescribed for commercial
1046 registrations in section 14-47, provided the fee for a heavy duty trailer,
1047 a crane or any other heavy construction equipment shall be three
1048 hundred six dollars for each year; except that the registration fee for
1049 each motor vehicle classed as a tractor-crane and equipped with

1050 rubber tires shall be one-half the fee charged for the gross weight of
1051 commercial vehicles.

1052 (n) For each temporary registration of a motor vehicle not used for
1053 commercial purposes, or renewal of such registration, the
1054 commissioner shall charge a fee computed at the rate of twenty dollars
1055 for each ten-day period, or part thereof. For each temporary
1056 registration of a motor vehicle used for commercial purposes, or
1057 renewal of such registration, the commissioner shall charge a fee
1058 computed at the rate of twenty-five dollars for each ten-day period, or
1059 part thereof, if the motor vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of
1060 six thousand pounds or less. For each temporary registration of a
1061 motor vehicle used for commercial purposes, or renewal of such
1062 registration, the commissioner shall charge a fee computed at the rate
1063 of forty-six dollars for each ten-day period, or part thereof, if the motor
1064 vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than six thousand
1065 pounds.

1066 (o) No registration fee or operator's license fee shall be charged in
1067 respect to any motor vehicle owned by a municipality, as defined in
1068 section 7-245, any other governmental agency or a military agency and
1069 used exclusively for the conduct of official business. No registration fee
1070 shall be charged for any motor vehicle owned by or leased to a transit
1071 district and used exclusively to provide public transportation. No fee
1072 shall be charged for the registration of ambulances owned by hospitals
1073 or any nonprofit civic organization approved by the commissioner, but
1074 a fee of twenty dollars shall be charged for the inspection of any such
1075 ambulance. No fee shall be charged for the registration of fire
1076 department apparatus as provided by section 14-19. No registration fee
1077 shall be charged to a disabled veteran, as defined in section 14-254,
1078 residing in this state for the registration of three passenger, camper or
1079 passenger and commercial motor vehicles leased or owned by such
1080 veteran in any registration year, provided such vehicles shall not be
1081 used for hire. No registration fee shall be charged for any motor
1082 vehicle leased to an agency of this state on or after June 4, 1982.

1083 (p) For the registration of a service bus owned by an individual,
1084 firm or corporation, exclusive of any nonprofit charitable, religious,
1085 educational or community service organization, and used for the
1086 transportation of persons without charge, the commissioner shall
1087 charge a fee of two hundred dollars for vehicles having a seating
1088 capacity of sixteen passengers or less, including the driver, and seven
1089 hundred dollars for vehicles having a seating capacity of more than
1090 sixteen passengers. For the registration of any service bus owned by
1091 any nonprofit charitable, religious, educational or community service
1092 organization, the commissioner shall charge a fee of one hundred fifty
1093 dollars for vehicles having a seating capacity of sixteen passengers or
1094 less, and five hundred dollars for vehicles having a seating capacity of
1095 more than sixteen passengers, provided such service bus is used
1096 exclusively for the purpose of transporting persons in relation to the
1097 purposes and activities of such organization. Each such registration
1098 shall be issued for a biennial period in accordance with a schedule
1099 established by the commissioner. Nothing herein contained shall affect
1100 the provisions of subsection (e) of this section.

1101 (q) The commissioner shall collect a biennial fee of twenty-eight
1102 dollars for the registration of each motor vehicle used exclusively for
1103 farming purposes. No such motor vehicle may be used for the purpose
1104 of transporting goods for hire or taking the on-the-road skills test
1105 portion of the examination for a motor vehicle operator's license. No
1106 farm registration shall be issued to any person operating a farm that
1107 has gross annual sales of less than two thousand five hundred dollars
1108 in the calendar year preceding registration. The commissioner may
1109 issue a farm registration for a passenger motor vehicle under such
1110 conditions as said commissioner shall prescribe in regulations adopted
1111 in accordance with chapter 54. No motor vehicle issued a farm
1112 registration may be used to transport ten or more passengers on any
1113 highway unless such motor vehicle meets the requirements for
1114 equipment and mechanical condition set forth in this chapter, and, in
1115 the case of a vehicle used to transport more than fifteen passengers,
1116 including the driver, the applicable requirements of the Code of
1117 Federal Regulations, as adopted by the commissioner, in accordance

1118 with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-163c. The operator of
1119 such motor vehicle used to transport ten or more passengers shall hold
1120 a public transportation permit or endorsement issued in accordance
1121 with the provisions of section 14-44. Any farm registration used
1122 otherwise than as provided by this subsection shall be revoked.

1123 (r) Repealed by P.A. 73-549, S. 2, 4.

1124 (s) A fee of sixty-five dollars shall be charged in addition to the
1125 regular fee prescribed for the registration of a motor vehicle, including
1126 but not limited to any passenger motor vehicle or motorcycle, in
1127 accordance with this section for a number plate or plates for such
1128 vehicle bearing any combination of letters or numbers requested by the
1129 registrant and which may be issued in the discretion of the
1130 commissioner, except in any case in which the number plates bear the
1131 official call letters of an amateur radio station. On and after July 1,
1132 1992, the fee shall be sixty-five dollars.

1133 (t) For the registration of each camper, the commissioner shall
1134 charge a biennial fee of sixty-two dollars. On and after July 1, 1992, the
1135 fee shall be seventy dollars. The commissioner shall refund one-half of
1136 the registration fee for any camper registration when the number plate
1137 or plates and registration certificate are returned with one year or more
1138 remaining until the expiration of such registration.

1139 (u) Repealed by P.A. 85-81.

1140 (v) There shall be charged for each motor vehicle learner's permit or
1141 renewal thereof a fee of eighteen dollars. There shall be charged for
1142 each motorcycle training permit or renewal thereof a fee of fifteen
1143 dollars.

1144 (w) In addition to the fee established for the issuance of motor
1145 vehicle number plates and except as provided in subsection (a) of
1146 section 14-21b and subsection (c) of section 14-253a there shall be an
1147 additional safety fee of five dollars charged at the time of issuance of
1148 any reflectorized safety number plate or set of plates. All moneys

1149 derived from said safety fee shall be deposited in the Special
1150 Transportation Fund. The commissioner may waive said safety fee in
1151 the case of any person who submits a police report to the
1152 commissioner indicating that the number plate or set of number plates
1153 have been stolen or mutilated for the purpose of obtaining the sticker
1154 attached to the plate denoting the expiration date of the registration.

1155 [(x)] For the registration of each vanpool vehicle, the biennial fee
1156 shall be sixty-two dollars. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be
1157 seventy dollars.]

1158 [(y)] (x) For the registration of each high-mileage vehicle, the
1159 commissioner shall charge a fee of thirty-nine dollars for each year or
1160 part thereof. On and after July 1, 1992, the fee shall be forty-four
1161 dollars.

1162 [(z)] (y) For each special use registration for a period of thirty days
1163 or less, the fee shall be twenty dollars.

1164 [(aa)] (z) The commissioner shall assess a ten-dollar late fee for
1165 renewal of a motor vehicle registration in the event a registrant fails to
1166 renew his registration within five days after the expiration of such
1167 registration, except that no such fee shall be assessed for the late
1168 renewal of the registration, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection
1169 (m) of this section, of (1) a trailer used exclusively for camping or any
1170 other recreational purpose, or (2) a motor vehicle designed or
1171 permanently altered in such a way as to provide living quarters for
1172 travel or camping.

1173 [(bb)] (aa) The commissioner shall refund one-half of the
1174 registration fee for any motor vehicle when the number plate or plates
1175 and registration certificate are returned on or after July 1, 2004, with
1176 one year or more remaining until the expiration of such registration.

1177 Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Commissioner of Motor
1178 Vehicles may permit any licensed motor vehicle dealer to maintain, in
1179 an electronic format prescribed by the commissioner, all records,

1180 documents and forms required by the Department of Motor Vehicles.
1181 Such records, documents and forms shall be produced in written
1182 format, not later than three business days, upon request by the
1183 department.

1184 Sec. 33. Section 14-284 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1185 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

1186 The restriction of any highway to use by passenger motor vehicles
1187 shall not prohibit the use thereof by motor vehicles in livery service as
1188 defined in chapter 244b [when such vehicles have a maximum capacity
1189 of seven passengers] provided such vehicles conform to the maximum
1190 weight, length, height or width requirements of vehicles permitted to
1191 use such highways without a special permit.

1192 Sec. 34. Subsection (g) of section 14-150 of the general statutes is
1193 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1194 *October 1, 2007*):

1195 (g) The owner or keeper of any garage or other place where such
1196 motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon the same for such
1197 owner's or keeper's towing and storage charges. Unless title has
1198 already vested in the municipality pursuant to subsection (d) of this
1199 section, if the current market value of such motor vehicle as
1200 determined in good faith by such owner or keeper does not exceed one
1201 thousand five hundred dollars and such motor vehicle has been stored
1202 for a period of not less than fifteen days, such owner or keeper may,
1203 unless an application filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of
1204 this section is pending and the owner of such motor vehicle has
1205 notified such owner or keeper that such application for hearing has
1206 been filed, sell the same for storage and towing charges owed thereon,
1207 provided a notice of intent to sell shall be sent to the commissioner, the
1208 owner and any lienholder of record of such motor vehicle, if known,
1209 five days before the sale of such vehicle. If the current market value of
1210 such motor vehicle as determined in good faith by such owner or
1211 keeper exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars and if such motor
1212 vehicle has been so stored for a period of forty-five days, such owner

1213 or keeper shall, unless an application filed by the owner pursuant to
1214 subsection (e) of this section is pending and the owner of such motor
1215 vehicle has notified such owner or keeper that such application for
1216 hearing has been filed, sell the same at public auction for cash, at such
1217 owner's or keeper's place of business, and apply the avails of such sale
1218 toward the payment of such owner's or keeper's charges and the
1219 payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the officer who placed
1220 the same in storage, provided if the last place of abode of the owner of
1221 such motor vehicle is known to or may be ascertained by such garage
1222 owner or keeper by the exercise of reasonable diligence, notice of the
1223 time and place of sale shall be given to such owner and any lienholder
1224 of record by mailing such notice to such owner in a registered or
1225 certified letter, postage paid, at such last usual place of abode, at least
1226 five days before the time of sale. At any public auction held pursuant
1227 to this subsection, such garage owner or keeper may set a minimum
1228 bid equal to the amount of such owner's or keeper's charges and
1229 obligations with respect to the tow and storage of the motor vehicle. If
1230 no such bid is made, such owner or keeper may sell or dispose of such
1231 vehicle.

1232 Sec. 35. Section 14-41 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1233 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

1234 (a) Except as provided in section 14-41a, each motor vehicle
1235 operator's license shall be renewed every six years or every four years
1236 on the date of the operator's birthday in accordance with a schedule to
1237 be established by the commissioner. [On and after July 1, 2007, the
1238 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall screen the vision of each motor
1239 vehicle operator prior to every other renewal of the operator's license
1240 of such operator in accordance with a schedule adopted by the
1241 commissioner. Such screening requirement shall apply to every other
1242 renewal following the initial screening. In lieu of the vision screening
1243 by the commissioner, such operator may submit the results of a vision
1244 screening conducted by a licensed health care professional qualified to
1245 conduct such screening on a form prescribed by the commissioner
1246 during the twelve months preceding such renewal. No motor vehicle

1247 operator's license may be renewed unless the operator passes such
1248 vision screening. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in
1249 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the
1250 provisions of this subsection relative to the administration of vision
1251 screening.]

1252 (b) An original operator's license shall expire within a period not
1253 exceeding six years following the date of the operator's next birthday.
1254 The fee for such original license shall be computed at the rate of forty-
1255 four dollars for a four-year license, sixty-six dollars for a six-year
1256 license and eleven dollars per year for any part of a year thereof. The
1257 commissioner may authorize an automobile club or association,
1258 licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-67 on or before
1259 the effective date of this section, to perform license renewals at its
1260 office facilities. The commissioner may authorize such automobile
1261 clubs or associations to charge a convenience fee, which shall not
1262 exceed two dollars, to each applicant for renewal.

1263 (c) The commissioner shall, at least fifteen days before the date on
1264 which each motor vehicle operator's license expires, notify the operator
1265 of the expiration date. Any previously licensed operator who operates
1266 a motor vehicle within sixty days after the expiration date of the
1267 operator's license without obtaining a renewal of the license shall be
1268 deemed to have failed to renew a motor vehicle operator's license and
1269 shall be fined in accordance with the amount designated for the
1270 infraction of failure to renew a motor vehicle operator's license. Any
1271 operator so charged shall not be prosecuted under section 14-36 for the
1272 same act constituting a violation under this section but section 14-36
1273 shall apply after the sixty-day period.

1274 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-3a, if the expiration
1275 date of any motor vehicle operator's license or any public passenger
1276 transportation permit falls on any day when offices of the
1277 commissioner are closed for business or are open for less than a full
1278 business day, the license or permit shall be deemed valid until
1279 midnight of the next day on which offices of the commissioner are

1280 open for a full day of business.

1281 Sec. 36. Subsection (b) of section 14-44k of the general statutes is
1282 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1283 *1, 2007*):

1284 (b) In addition to any other penalties provided by law, and except as
1285 provided in subsection (d) of this section, a person is disqualified from
1286 operating a commercial motor vehicle for one year if convicted of one
1287 violation of (1) operating any motor vehicle while under the influence
1288 of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or both, under section 14-227a, (2)
1289 operating a commercial motor vehicle while having a blood alcohol
1290 concentration of four-hundredths of one per cent, or more, (3) evasion
1291 of responsibility under section 14-224, (4) using any motor vehicle in
1292 the commission of any felony, as defined in section 14-1, or (5)
1293 operating a commercial motor vehicle while the operator's commercial
1294 driver's license is revoked, suspended or cancelled, or while the
1295 operator is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle. [,
1296 or (6) causing a fatality through the negligent or reckless operation of a
1297 commercial motor vehicle, as evidenced by a conviction of a violation
1298 of section 53a-56b, 53a-57, 53a-60d or 14-222a.] In addition to any other
1299 penalties provided by law, and except as provided in subsection (d) of
1300 this section, a person is disqualified from operating a commercial
1301 motor vehicle for a period of not more than two years if convicted of
1302 one violation of causing a fatality through the negligent or reckless
1303 operation of a commercial motor vehicle, as evidenced by a conviction
1304 of a violation of section 53a-56b, 53a-57, 53a-60d or 14-222a, as
1305 amended by this act.

1306 Sec. 37. Section 14-222a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1307 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

1308 Any person who, in consequence of the negligent operation of a
1309 motor vehicle, causes the death of another person shall be fined not
1310 more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six
1311 months or both. Any person who, in consequence of the negligent
1312 operation of a commercial motor vehicle, causes the death of another

1313 person shall be fined not more than two thousand five hundred dollars
1314 or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

1315 Sec. 38. Subsection (c) of section 14-164c of the general statutes is
1316 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1317 *1, 2007*):

1318 (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
1319 chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section. Such
1320 regulations shall include provision for a periodic inspection of air
1321 pollution control equipment and compliance with or waiver of exhaust
1322 emission standards or compliance with or waiver of on-board
1323 diagnostic standards or other standards defined by the Commissioner
1324 of Environmental Protection and approved by the Administrator of the
1325 United States Environmental Protection Agency, compliance with or
1326 waiver of, air pollution control system integrity standards defined by
1327 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and compliance with
1328 or waiver of purge system standards defined by the Commissioner of
1329 Environmental Protection. Such regulations may provide for an
1330 inspection procedure using an on-board diagnostic information system
1331 for all 1996 model year and newer motor vehicles. Such regulations
1332 shall apply to all motor vehicles registered or which will be registered
1333 in this state except: (1) Vehicles having a gross weight of more than ten
1334 thousand pounds; (2) vehicles powered by electricity; (3) bicycles with
1335 motors attached; (4) motorcycles; (5) vehicles operating with a
1336 temporary registration; (6) vehicles manufactured twenty-five or more
1337 years ago; (7) new vehicles at the time of initial registration; (8)
1338 vehicles registered but not designed primarily for highway use; (9)
1339 farm vehicles, as defined in subsection (q) of section 14-49; (10) diesel-
1340 powered type II school buses; [or] (11) a vehicle operated by a licensed
1341 dealer or repairer either to or from a location of the purchase or sale of
1342 such vehicle or for the purpose of obtaining an official emissions or
1343 safety inspection; or (12) vehicles that have met the inspection
1344 requirements of section 14-103a and are registered by the
1345 commissioner as composite vehicles. On and after July 1, 2002, such
1346 regulations shall exempt from the periodic inspection requirement any

1347 vehicle four or less model years of age, beginning with model year
1348 2003 and the previous three model years, provided that such
1349 exemption shall lapse upon a finding by the Administrator of the
1350 United States Environmental Protection Agency or by the Secretary of
1351 the United States Department of Transportation that such exemption
1352 causes the state to violate applicable federal environmental or
1353 transportation planning requirements. Notwithstanding any
1354 provisions of this subsection, the commissioner may require an initial
1355 emissions inspection and compliance or waiver prior to registration of
1356 a new motor vehicle. If the Commissioner of Environmental Protection
1357 finds that it is necessary to inspect motor vehicles which are exempt
1358 under subdivision (1) or (4) of this subsection, or motor vehicles that
1359 are four or less model years of age in order to achieve compliance with
1360 federal law concerning emission reduction requirements, the
1361 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in accordance
1362 with the provisions of chapter 54, to require the inspection of
1363 motorcycles, designated motor vehicles having a gross weight of more
1364 than ten thousand pounds or motor vehicles four or less model years
1365 of age.

1366 Sec. 39. Subsection (e) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is
1367 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1368 *1, 2007*):

1369 (e) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued until (A)
1370 the applicant signs and files with the commissioner an application
1371 under oath, or made subject to penalties for false statement in
1372 accordance with section 53a-157b, and (B) the commissioner is satisfied
1373 that the applicant is sixteen years of age or older and is a suitable
1374 person to receive the license. (2) An applicant for a new motor vehicle
1375 operator's license shall, in the discretion of the commissioner, file, with
1376 the application, a copy of such applicant's birth certificate or other
1377 prima facie evidence of date of birth and evidence of identity. (3)
1378 Before granting a license to any applicant who has not previously held
1379 a Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license, or who has not
1380 operated a motor vehicle during the preceding two years, the

1381 commissioner shall require the applicant to demonstrate personally to
1382 the commissioner, a deputy or a motor vehicle inspector or an agent of
1383 the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner directs, that
1384 the applicant is a proper person to operate motor vehicles of the class
1385 for which such applicant has applied, has sufficient knowledge of the
1386 mechanism of the motor vehicles to ensure their safe operation by him
1387 or her and has satisfactory knowledge of the laws concerning motor
1388 vehicles and the rules of the road. Any applicant eighteen years of age
1389 or older shall also present to the commissioner a certificate of the
1390 successful completion of a course of not less than four hours relative to
1391 safe driving practices, including the nature and the medical, biological
1392 and physiological effects of alcohol and drugs and their impact on the
1393 operator of a motor vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation
1394 of a motor vehicle after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the
1395 operator, the problems of alcohol and drug abuse and the penalties for
1396 alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle violations. If any such
1397 applicant has held a license from a state, territory or possession of the
1398 United States where a similar examination is required, or if any such
1399 applicant is a person honorably separated from the United States
1400 armed forces who applies within two years following the separation
1401 and who, prior to the separation, held a military operator's license for
1402 motor vehicles of the same class as that for which such applicant has
1403 applied, the commissioner may waive part or all of the examination.
1404 When the commissioner is satisfied as to the ability and competency of
1405 any applicant, the commissioner may issue to such applicant a license,
1406 either unlimited or containing such limitations as the commissioner
1407 deems advisable, and specifying the class of motor vehicles which the
1408 licensee is eligible to operate. (4) If any applicant or operator license
1409 holder has any health problem which might affect such person's ability
1410 to operate a motor vehicle safely, the commissioner may require the
1411 applicant or license holder to demonstrate personally or otherwise
1412 establish that, notwithstanding such problem, such applicant or license
1413 holder is a proper person to operate a motor vehicle, and the
1414 commissioner may further require a certificate of such applicant's
1415 condition, signed by a medical authority designated by the

1416 commissioner, which certificate shall in all cases be treated as
 1417 confidential by the commissioner. A license, containing such limitation
 1418 as the commissioner deems advisable, may be issued or renewed in
 1419 any case, but nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the
 1420 commissioner from refusing a license, either limited or unlimited, to
 1421 any person or suspending a license of a person whom the
 1422 commissioner determines to be incapable of safely operating a motor
 1423 vehicle. Consistent with budgetary allotments, each motor vehicle
 1424 operator's license issued to or renewed by a deaf or hearing impaired
 1425 person shall, upon the request of such person, indicate such
 1426 impairment. Such person shall submit a certificate stating such
 1427 impairment, in such form as the commissioner may require and signed
 1428 by a licensed health care practitioner. (5) The issuance of a motor
 1429 vehicle operator's license to any applicant who is the holder of a
 1430 license issued by another state shall be subject to the provisions of
 1431 sections 14-111c and 14-111k.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	14-1(a)(13)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	14-1(a)(24)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	14-1(a)(50)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	14-65i(a)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	14-289j(f)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-10(e)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-36g(a)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-289a
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-44e(b)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-103a
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-163d
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-261a
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	15-148
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-12h
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-44i
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	22a-201
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section

Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-36d
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-44
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-36(c)
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-37a(a)
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-66(a)
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-36(h)
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-215(c)
Sec. 27	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-80i(b)
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-300(c)
Sec. 30	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-49
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-284
Sec. 34	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-150(g)
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-41
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-44k(b)
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-222a
Sec. 38	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-164c(c)
Sec. 39	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	14-36(e)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Subsection (c) of section 15 was amended for proper grammar.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note and OLR Bill Analysis

sSB-1400

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

OFA SUMMARY IMPACT:

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - See Below	See Below	See Below
Department of Transportation	TF - See Below	See Below	See Below
Children & Families, Dept.	TF - See Below	See Below	See Below

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

A section-by-section fiscal impact analysis is presented in conjunction with the bill summary.

OLR SUMMARY:

This bill:

1. requires anyone getting a new driver's license in Connecticut who is over age 18 to complete a four-hour course on safe driving practices before qualifying for licensure;
2. establishes higher penalties for (a) a commercial vehicle driver who causes a fatality while operating his vehicle negligently or recklessly, (b) operating a motor vehicle while under license suspension, and (c) drivers who fail to grant the right of way to a pedestrian in a crosswalk;

3. requires any prospective employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to provide pertinent information on prior arrests and to submit to a criminal history record check;
4. modifies the procedures DMV must follow when issuing drivers' licenses that require special endorsements and eliminates the endorsement required to operate a camp vehicle;
5. allows DMV to substitute the business addresses for the residential addresses of probation officers and certain others whose safety could be at risk if their residential addresses are made public;
6. applies the same federal health and fitness requirements that currently apply to anyone who holds a commercial driver's license (CDL) to those who hold CDL instruction permits;
7. exempts motorcycles from the greenhouse gas labeling program for motor vehicles;
8. makes several changes with respect to the specific information DMV must put on drivers' licenses and establishes requirements for when DMV may allow someone to renew a driver's license without personally appearing to renew it;
9. applies the same passenger carrying restrictions to 16- and 17-year olds receiving instruction from relatives under a home training certificate that apply for the first six months after these drivers receive their licenses;
10. expands the reasons for which someone may automatically be denied eligibility for a special driving permit for employment purposes;
11. authorizes issuance of a "Gold Star Family" license plate to certain relatives of an armed forces member killed in the line of duty;

12. increases the fee for a duplicate marine vessel certificate of number or registration and eliminates fees for vanpool vehicle registration and license plate confiscation from vehicles with registrations suspended for failure to maintain insurance;
13. exempts composite motor vehicles from exhaust emissions inspections;
14. repeals vision screening requirements for renewing drivers' licenses currently scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2007 and authorizes DMV-licensed automobile clubs to charge a \$2 convenience fee when they renew a driver's license on behalf of DMV;
15. allows motor vehicle dealers to maintain required records in an electronic form the commissioner approves;
16. specifies insurance coverage requirements for some types of motor carriers who may not now be subject to federal minimum financial responsibility requirements;
17. allows DMV to consider the Consumer Price Index when assessing whether to approve changes in the rates towers may charge for nonconsensual towing;
18. allows towers to recover towing and storage charges when they dispose of a vehicle they have held for the periods required by law;
19. modifies the requirement for the maximum height of motorcycle handlebars;
20. eliminates several requirements, some of which are obsolete, specific to operating commercial vehicles with tandem trailers; and
21. requires DMV to study the possible effects various types of electronic devices installed in motor vehicles may have on their

safe operation and report its findings and recommendations to the Transportation Committee by February 1, 2008.

The bill also makes several technical and minor conforming changes to laws.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various, see below

§§ 1 – 5, 7 – Technical Changes

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

These sections of the bill are technical in nature and not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact.

OLR Analysis

These sections make several technical changes to various statutes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except section 7 which is effective October 1, 2007.

§ 6 – Protection of Residential Addresses of Certain Officials

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

By law the DMV can withhold the residential address of certain public officials from public disclosure, if they request this in writing, for whom such disclosure of this address could represent a threat their safety. Instead, DMV may disclose the official's business address. These officials include judges, police, corrections officers, prosecuting attorneys, and members of the Board of Pardons and Paroles. The bill includes state and federal probation officers, federal law enforcement officers who live or work in Connecticut, and any other state law enforcement officer the DMV commissioner recognizes under this protection.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 8 – Passenger Restrictions for Teenage Motorcycle Operators

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill conforms the law governing motorcycle operation to the restrictions that already exist with respect to prohibiting any 16- or 17-year old from carrying any passengers on a motorcycle for the first six months he is licensed (CGS § 14-36g(a)(5)). It also makes a technical correction to reflect the fact that authority to operate a motorcycle is granted through a driver's license endorsement rather than through a separate license; a change that occurred in 2003.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 9 – Health and Fitness Requirements for Commercial Drivers

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill applies the same health and fitness standards currently applicable to individuals who actually hold a commercial driver's license (CDL) to applicants for a commercial driver's instruction permit. It gives someone who is denied an instruction permit, or whose permit is suspended, revoked, or cancelled based on his inability to meet the physical standards, the same right to a DMV hearing that applies to license holders. Individuals who want to get a CDL but have not been previously licensed usually undergo training prior to licensure under an instruction permit.

Finally, it eliminates a reference in the law to separate standards for intrastate drivers. DMV applies the mandatory fitness standards in federal regulations to all CDL holders.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 10 – Reconstructed Motor Vehicles

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

By law, certain motor vehicles must undergo a DMV safety inspection before they may be registered. These currently are vehicles: (1) composed or assembled from parts of other vehicles, (2) the identification of which is so altered that they no longer bear the characteristics of any specific make of vehicle, and (3) declared a total loss by and insurance carrier and subsequently rebuilt. The bill changes the latter category to totaled vehicles that are subsequently reconstructed rather than rebuilt. It defines "reconstructed" as every motor vehicle materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of essential parts, whether the parts are new or used.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 11 – Insurance Requirements for Motor Carriers

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

By law, certain owners of certain commercial motor vehicles must file evidence with the DMV commissioner every six months that they have in effect the insurance coverage or other security required by law for each vehicle they operate. For those carriers subject to federal financial responsibility coverage requirements, the commissioner has adopted the same coverage levels as state requirements. The minimum

federal financial responsibility limits generally apply to for-hire carriers over 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating carrying non-hazardous cargo in interstate commerce, for hire and private carriers in interstate or intrastate commerce hazardous materials requiring warning placards under federal law, and any vehicles carrying passengers for hire in interstate commerce.

The state applies the federal minimum levels of coverage for vehicles (1) engaged in intrastate commerce with gross vehicle weight ratings of 18,001 pounds or more; (2) engaged in interstate commerce with gross vehicle weight ratings of 10,001 pounds or more; (3) designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver; and (4) used to transport hazardous materials requiring placards, regardless of vehicle size. Generally, (1) non-hazardous property carriers subject to federal limits must have a minimum of \$750,000 liability coverage; (2) hazardous materials carriers must have either \$1 million or \$5 million in liability coverage depending on the classification of the hazardous material carried; and (3) passenger carriers must have \$1.5 million if the vehicle seats fewer than 15 passengers and \$5 million if it seats 16 or more.

The bill requires that all for hire carriers and private carriers of property or passengers, and the owner of any vehicle that transports hazardous materials requiring warning placards under federal law to show in its semiannual filing with DMV that it maintains the minimum level of financial responsibility the federal regulations specify. This appears to extend these higher federal, rather than state limits, to certain types of carriers (e.g., private carriers over 10,000 pounds gross weight rating carrying non-hazardous cargo in intrastate commerce or passenger carriers engaged in intrastate commerce, which, because they are not currently covered by the federal limits, may not have to show the same levels of financial responsibility as carriers that do come explicitly under the federal regulations).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 12 – Requirements Applicable to Operation of Tandem Trailers

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill eliminates several requirements specific to the operation of tandem trailers, defined statutorily as commercial vehicle combinations. It eliminates requirements that an operator of tandem trailers (1) get a special DMV license endorsement, (2) have at least three years of prior experience operating commercial vehicle combinations elsewhere, or previously held a Connecticut license for driving these vehicles, (3) not have violated certain traffic laws prior to licensure. To some extent, these matters are now governed by federal law. States must now issue special endorsements on a CDL for operating certain types of commercial vehicles, including tandem trailers, and may refuse to license, or disqualify from continuing to operate a commercial motor vehicle for specified periods, drivers who have been convicted of certain traffic offenses. These requirements are similar to those in the current law. However, the federal licensing standards states must apply do not specify a prior experience requirement for operating tandems. Instead, states must have testing programs that adequately test an applicant's ability to operate these specialized vehicles.

The bill eliminates the current requirement that the DMV commissioner establish a special safety inspection program for commercial vehicle combinations consisting of an initial inspection prior to registration and a system of staggered subsequent inspections. It also eliminates the requirement that prohibits these vehicles from

being operated in Connecticut unless they display a currently valid inspection sticker issued by Connecticut or another state. These provisions were enacted in 1983 when the legislature reaffirmed its restrictions on tandem trailers notwithstanding federal law permitting their operations on the Interstate Highway System. The state was subsequently enjoined from enforcing its prohibition on their operation (*U.S. v. State of Conn.*, D.C. Conn. 1983, 566 F. Supp. 571 affirmed 742 F. 2d 1443). However, it does not appear that these other requirements are currently being enforced either. Commercial motor vehicles, including tandem trailers, are subject to both state and federal safety regulations that are enforced by both the State Police and DMV inspectors.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 13 – Criminal History Checks for Prospective DMV Employees

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill requires DMV to get from any prospective employee applying for a job at the agency a statement with respect to whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending at the time of application. If so, the applicant must identify the charges and the court in which they are pending. If offered employment, the person must be fingerprinted and submit to a state and national criminal history records check in accordance with state law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 14 – Fee for Duplicate Marine Vessel Certificate of Number or Registration

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – Gain	15,200	15,200

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section increases the fee for duplicate marine vessel certificate or registration fee from \$1 to \$20. This is expected to result in a revenue gain of \$15,200 per year. There are about 800 requests per year for duplicate certificates and registrations.

OLR Analysis

The bill increases the fee for a duplicate marine vessel certificate of number or registration from \$1 to \$20. BY law, DMV may issue these if a vessel's original certificate of number or registration has been lost, mutilated, or destroyed. (Fees for most other DMV-issued document copy and duplicate documents were increased to a uniform \$20 fee in 2003 and 2004.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 15 – Plate Confiscation Fee for Uninsured Vehicles

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill formalizes current practice and has no fiscal impact.

OLR Analysis

Currently, if a vehicle's registration has been suspended for failure to maintain insurance coverage, and its license plates have been confiscated by a police officer or constable, the vehicle owner must pay a \$50 confiscation fee, along with any other penalties that apply, before registration is restored. The DMV commissioner must remit the fee to the constable or municipality, as applicable. The bill eliminates the confiscation fee. In practice, DMV rarely assesses the plate confiscation fee because a vehicle operating with registration suspended for lack of insurance is usually towed in its entirety.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 16 – “Z” CDL License Restriction

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill formalizes current practice and has no fiscal impact.

OLR Analysis

The bill eliminates an obsolete reference for certain license test and permit fees for anyone who applies for a CDL with a “Z” (school bus only) restriction. The Z restriction was eliminated from the law in 2004.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 17 – Motorcycles and Greenhouse Gas Labeling System

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill makes technical changes and is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact.

OLR Analysis

The bill eliminates motorcycles from consideration as motor vehicles subject to the greenhouse gas labeling requirements established by the legislature in 2006. It requires all new motor vehicles sold or leased in Connecticut beginning with the 2009 model year to have greenhouse gas labels.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§§ 18-20 – Drivers’ Licenses

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill makes technical changes and is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact.

OLR Analysis

The bill requires every driver’s license and non-driver photo identity card issued by DMV to contain certain information and features, some of which are already done under more general statutory authority or at the commissioner’s discretion. It requires them to contain the person’s (1) full legal name, (2) date of birth, (3) gender, (4) height and eye color, (5) license or identity card identification number, (6) address of principal Connecticut residence, (7) signature, and (8) color photograph digital image. It defines someone’s full legal name

as the most complete version of the name as it appears on a birth certificate, official passport, or other document acceptable to the commissioner to verify identity, unless the applicant presents a marriage license, certificate of civil union, divorce decree, or court order pertaining to a permanent name change.

The bill also requires licenses and identity cards to have (1) physical security features designed to prevent tampering, counterfeiting, or duplication and (2) one or more machine readable technology features including a bar code or magnetic strip. The bill eliminates obsolete references to licenses issued to anyone under age 21 and temporary licenses issued without pictures, as all drivers' licenses are now issued in the same format with a picture or digital image of the applicant.

The bill also authorizes the commissioner to renew licenses and identity cards without personal appearance by the holder of the license or card in certain circumstances. These are when the holder is (1) a member of the armed forces, (2) temporarily residing out of Connecticut for business or educational purposes, or (3) in other circumstances where the commissioner determined that personal appearance would be impractical or impose significant hardship. The commissioner must decline to renew without personal appearance if (1) he is not satisfied with the reasons why the person cannot appear in person, (2) he does not have the person's photograph or digital image on file, (3) he has reason to believe the person is no longer a state resident, or (4) if the applicant has not presented satisfactory evidence of identity.

The commissioner is authorized to adopt regulations to provide for renewal without appearance by mail or electronic means of anyone not identified above.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 21 – Camp Vehicle License Endorsements and Requirements for Issuing CDLs

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Cost	70,000	20,000
Department of Children and Families	GF - Cost	32,350	43,150
OSC-Fringe Benefits	GF - Cost	8,550	19,950

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None**Explanation**

This section of the bill requires applicants for an operator's license bearing a school endorsement or an endorsement to operate a student transportation vehicle to submit to a check of the state child abuse registry. It allows the commissioner of motor vehicles to deny a license to any such person identified on the registry as a perpetrator, and extends a right to a hearing to individuals so notified.

Approximately 6,000 persons would have to obtain a child abuse registry check conducted by the Department of Children and Families in FY 08. This number would increase to about 8,000 in FY 09 given full year implementation. The agency's Hotline would require a half-time Social Worker position to conduct the checks. An FY 08 cost of \$40,900 would be associated with this position and associated other expenses (\$32,350 DCF; \$8,550 fringe benefits). In FY 09 the annualized cost for the additional position would be approximately \$63,100, (\$43,150 DCF; \$19,950 fringe benefits)

There is a one-time cost of \$50,000 occurring in FY 08 for computer programming changes in addition to an ongoing cost of \$20,000 per year for information technology charges to the DMV.

OLR Analysis

The bill (1) makes several changes with respect to procedures DMV must follow when issuing CDLs with endorsements for transporting passengers and (2) eliminates the endorsement required for operation of a camp vehicle.

Currently, an applicant for a CDL with a passenger endorsement,

whether for an initial license or a renewal, must provide the commissioner with evidence that he has not been convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs within the five years before applying. The bill expands this requirement to include disclosure of any administrative license suspension under the “per se” law and makes it clear that provision of this information applies for both initial licensure and renewals.

In addition, the bill makes the following changes to the process:

1. it requires DMV to check the Department of Children and Families child abuse registry to see if the applicant is listed in that database;
2. it eliminates the commissioner’s authority to issue a temporary CDL pending completion of a national criminal record history check;
3. it requires the commissioner to deny licensure or suspend an endorsement issued for transporting passengers who are students for anyone convicted of a criminal offense he determines to be serious or any federal law or other state’s law he determines to be of a substantially similar nature, if any part of the sentence for such conviction either has not been completed, or was completed within the preceding five years;
4. it requires any police officer or department arresting someone who holds a CDL with an endorsement for transporting students to for a violation of first degree reckless endangerment to report this fact to the DMV within 48 hours (current law already requires such reporting following arrest for a felony or a violation for fourth degree sexual assault); and
5. it requires the commissioner to deny an application for an original or renewal license bearing an endorsement that contains false or substantially inaccurate or incomplete information, including a failure to disclose on the application any matter

pertaining to a criminal arrest or conviction.

The bill eliminates the requirement that anyone who operates a camp vehicle get a special license endorsement. A camp vehicle is a motor vehicle regularly used to transport passengers under age 18 in connection with the activities of any youth camp requiring licensure by the Department of Public Health.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

Related Bill

sHB 6955, favorably reported by the Education Committee, also makes changes to the DMV license endorsement process for drivers carrying school children some of which are similar to this bill, but others of which are not.

§ 22 – Learners’ Permit Restrictions

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

By law, a 16- and 17-year old must get a learner’s permit and receive instruction from a qualified individual for a period of six months before he may take the driver’s license examination. This period may be reduced to four months if he receives his instruction through a commercial driving school or driver education program. Teen drivers may receive training in three ways—through a commercial driving instruction school, a secondary school driver education program, or by a qualified relative (which is known as “home training”). The bill

establishes restrictions on the number of passengers a 16- or 17-year old may have in the vehicle while being home trained. The restrictions do not apply if the teen is receiving training with a commercial driving school or driver education program.

The passenger restrictions are similar to the ones that apply during the first six months after a 16- or 17-year old receives a driver's license. During the period they receive instruction under the permit, the home-trained 16- or 17-year old may transport: (1) during the first three months from the date the permit is issued, only (a) his parents or legal guardian, at least one of whom has a driver's license, or (b) one person who is providing instruction, is at least age 20, has been licensed to drive for at least the preceding four years, and has not had his license suspended during that period; and (2) during the fourth through six months, only those in (1) plus any additional passengers who are immediate family members.

The passenger restrictions do not apply to any 16- or 17-year old who is an active member of a certified ambulance service, has begun an emergency vehicle operator's course conforming to national standards, and has had a state and national criminal history records check conducted by either the ambulance service or the municipality in which the service is provided.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 23 – Special Driving Permits

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill expands the grounds on which someone is automatically denied a special driving permit for employment purposes. Currently, someone whose license has been suspended may apply for a special driving permit that allows driving only for employment purposes except if the suspension was for (1) driving while already under license suspension or (2) failure to appear for trial. The bill expands the latter disqualification to include failure to appear for any scheduled court appearance rather than only for trial. It also disqualifies someone who has been convicted of manslaughter in the second degree with a motor vehicle from consideration for a special permit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 24 – Wrecker Fees for Nonconsensual Towing

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

By law, the motor vehicle must establish and publish a schedule of charges that tow truck operators may charge for nonconsensual towing and storage of motor vehicles. The commissioner must reconsider and adjust these rates as necessary not more frequently than every two years, if petitioned by a licensed dealer or repairer operating wreckers. The bill requires the commissioner to consider the Consumer Price Index as one of the possible factors during such a rate review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§§ 25-26 – Penalties for Repeat Violations of Unlicensed Driving or Driving While Under Suspension

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None
Judicial Dept.	Various - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Criminal Justice Agencies	GF - Cost	Significant	Significant

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Section 26 increases criminal penalties (including mandatory minimum sentences of incarceration) for certain repeat offenders of statutes that prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle while under license suspension. This would result in a significant state cost for incarceration. On average, it costs the state approximately \$41,600 to incarcerate an offender. Any revenue gain from criminal fines is anticipated to be minimal.

OLR Analysis

Currently, anyone who operates a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked license or registration or with a license that has been refused is subject:

1. for a first offense, to a fine of \$150 to \$200, up to 90 days in prison, or both; and
2. for any subsequent offense, a fine of \$200 to \$600, up to one year in prison, or both.

In addition:

1. someone who has either violated this law before, or committed

the offense of operating a motor vehicle without first obtaining a license, is subject to an additional fine of up to \$500 or up to 100 hours of community service; and

2. anyone who has committed either of these offenses at least twice before, or both at least once before, must be given the additional mandatory sentence of 90 days in prison.

The bill increases the penalty in the second instance explained above (two or more prior offenses for operating while under suspension or while unlicensed) to a term of imprisonment of up to one year with 90 days of which may not be suspended or reduced. However, it only does this in one of the two statutes (CGS § 14-36(h)(2)) in which the penalty is currently specified. It does not change the penalty in the companion statute (CGS § 14-215(b)(2)).

However, a higher penalty currently applies if someone is found to be operating while under suspension or revocation of license and the suspension was due to an alcohol-related driving offense driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, an administrative “per se” suspension, manslaughter in the second degree with a motor vehicle, and assault in the second degree with a motor vehicle. Currently, the penalty is a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and imprisonment for up to one year, with a mandatory minimum of 30 days unless the court determines there are mitigating circumstances. The bill establishes higher penalties for repeat violations of this law which, although they appear to be intended as enhanced tiers of punishment for driving while under an alcohol-related license suspension because of their location in the bill, may actually apply to any violations for operating while under suspension for any offense.

Specifically, the bill requires that if someone commits a violation for driving while under suspension for a second violation of “any of the offenses specified in this section” (which includes all of the violations explained earlier, he is subject to a term of imprisonment of up to two years, of which 120 consecutive days may not be suspended or reduced in the absence of mitigating circumstances determined by the

court. For a violation that occurs while someone is under suspension for a third or subsequent violation of any of these offenses, the bill requires a term of imprisonment of up to three years, one year of which may not be suspended or reduced in the absence of mitigating circumstances determined by the court.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 27 – Gold Star Family License Plate

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill requires DMV to issue a special license plate, if requested by a spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, child, grandmother, or grandfather of any Connecticut service member killed in the line of duty. The plate must bear the words “Gold Star Family” and the design approved by a committee the commissioner establishes for this purpose. The special plates may be requested for any vehicle a qualifying family member owns or leases for a period of more than one year. The commissioner may charge a fee for the plates that covers the cost of their manufacture, which must be in addition to the normal registration fee for the vehicle.

EFFECTIVE DATE: upon passage

§ 28 – Motorcycle Handlebar Height

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

Currently, the handlebars of a motorcycle may be no more than 15 inches in height above the uppermost portion of the seat when it is depressed by the weight of the operator. The bill changes this standard to a height that is not above operator's shoulders.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 29 – Crosswalk Violations

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None
Judicial Dept.	Various - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Criminal Justice Agencies	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

This section increases the amount due (almost doubling it) for violation of the statute that requires drivers to grant the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the road within a crosswalk. About three hundred such violations are recorded with the Superior Court each year. The change in this section is expected to yield a minimal revenue gain to the General and Transportation funds. This revenue gain is net of any potential revenue loss due to a likely increase in the number of

contested fines under this statute as a result of the bill's increase.

OLR Analysis

Currently, except if driving an emergency vehicle responding to an emergency call, a driver must grant the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the road within the crosswalk, whether or not he is in the half of the road in which the vehicle is traveling, or if the pedestrian steps to the curb at the entrance to the crosswalk on either side of the road. The current penalty is an infraction for which the total amount a violator must pay is currently set at minimum amount due of \$93 inclusive of the fine and other mandatory fees and assessments.

The bill (1) increases the penalty by specifying that the fine has to be at least \$90 and (2) requires that for the driver to be required to grant the right of way to a pedestrian the pedestrian must have stepped off the curb or into the crosswalk, rather than just stepping to the curb. With the higher fine specified for violations, the total amount a violator would have to pay would increase from \$93 to \$182.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 30 – DMV Study of Potentially Distracting Electronic Equipment Installed in Motor Vehicles

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill requires DMV to study issues relating to driver use of electronic equipment installed in motor vehicles that is unrelated to

vehicle operation. This includes word processors, computer video monitors, devices that provide internet access, and any other such equipment of a similar nature. The study must examine, at least, (1) the extent to which such equipment is being offered as original equipment in vehicles sold in Connecticut, (2) federal laws and regulations that govern manufacturers and such equipment, (3) the extent to which such equipment is offered for aftermarket installation, (4) recent studies or other information concerning the use of such equipment and its effect on vehicle operation, and (5) any U.S. or foreign laws that govern the installation and use of such equipment. DMV must submit its report with findings and recommendations to the Transportation committee by February 1, 2008.

EFFECTIVE DATE: upon passage

§ 31 – Vanpool Vehicle Registration Fee

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Loss	20,000	20,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill repeals the vanpool vehicle registration fee of \$70. This is expected to result in a revenue loss to the Transportation Fund of approximately \$20,000 per year.

OLR Analysis

The bill eliminates the \$70 registration fee for vanpool vehicles. A vanpool vehicle is defined as any vehicle whose primary purpose is daily transportation of people between home and work on a prearranged nonprofit basis and which is manufactured and equipped to provide seating capacity for (1) seven to 15 people, if owned by or leased to an individual person, an employee of that person, or to an employee of a governmental entity in Connecticut or (2) six to 19

people, if owned by or leased to a regional ridesharing organization in Connecticut that is recognized by the Department of Transportation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 32 – Motor Vehicle Dealer Records

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill authorizes the DMV commissioner to permit any licensed motor vehicle dealer to maintain any records, documents, and forms DMV requires in an electronic format the commissioner prescribes. It requires the dealers to produce these records, documents, and forms in written format within three days of a DMV request for them.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 33 – Livery Vehicles Use of Restricted Highways

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Transportation	TF - None	None	None
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of

Transportation.

OLR Analysis

Currently, any restriction on the use of a highway only by passenger vehicles may not prohibit its use by livery vehicles as long as their maximum seating capacity does not exceed seven passengers. The bill, instead, allows livery vehicles to legally use a restricted highway, regardless of their seating capacity, as long as they do not exceed the maximum weight and dimension limits established for highway use by vehicles without special permits. The bill's change primarily affects the use of parkways by livery vehicles. The State Traffic Commission regulates the size and types of vehicles that may use the parkways in Connecticut. The regulations generally prohibit on the parkways any: (1) commercial motor vehicles; (2) buses; (3) trailers; (4) towed vehicles; (5) hearses when in a cortege or procession; (6) any vehicle bearing other than a passenger, camper, taxicab, vanpool or hearse registration; (7) vehicles with combination registrations that have gross weights exceeding 7,500 pounds; and (8) any vehicle that exceeds, including its load, 24 feet in length, seven feet, six inches in width, or eight feet in height.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 34 – Recovery of Towing Charges by Towers

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

Currently, when a tower removes a motor vehicle either from the

highway or from private property and takes it to its storage facility, the law gives the tower a lien upon the vehicle for storage charges. This lien is usually satisfied either by the vehicle's owner if he comes to claim the vehicle or from the proceeds of any sale of the vehicle done pursuant to the statutory requirements that apply to how towers may dispose of vehicles not claimed by their owners. The bill expands this lien authority to include the towing charges as well as the storage charges.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

§ 35 – Repeal of Vision Screening Requirements and renewal of Drivers' Licenses by Automobile Clubs

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF – Savings	\$1.1 million	\$1.1 million

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill repeals the requirement that DMV Commissioner screen the vision of every licensed driver. This is expected to result in a savings to the Transportation Fund of approximately \$1.1 million per year.

OLR Analysis

The bill repeals a requirement that, beginning July 1, 2007, the DMV commissioner screen the vision of every licensed driver before every second license renewal. This requirement allowed the commissioner, in lieu of conducting the screening, to accept the results of a vision screening within the 12 months preceding license renewal conducted by a licensed and qualified health care professional.

The bill also allows the commissioner to authorize automobile clubs or associations licensed by DMV on or before July 1, 2007 to perform drivers' license renewals and to charge a convenience fee of up to \$2 for the service. DMV already uses such clubs or associations to

perform license renewals, but the statutes did not explicitly authorize this. They were not, however, allowed to charge any additional fee for the service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§§ 36-37 – Enhanced Penalties for Commercial Vehicle Operators Who Cause a Fatality through Negligent or Reckless Operation

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None
Judicial Dept.	Various - Revenue Gain	Potential	Potential
Criminal Justice Agencies	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Section 37 increases the criminal fine that may be imposed on any person convicted of negligent homicide with a commercial motor vehicle. Any revenue gain under this provision would be minimal.

OLR Analysis

Currently, anyone who because of negligent operation of a motor vehicle causes someone else's death may be fined up to \$1,000, imprisoned for up to six months, or both. In addition, someone driving a commercial motor vehicle (a vehicle for which a CDL is required) who causes a fatality through negligent or reckless operation of the commercial vehicle, as evidenced by a conviction for negligent homicide with a motor vehicle, manslaughter in the second degree with a motor vehicle, misconduct with a motor vehicle, or assault in the second degree with a motor vehicle, is disqualified from operating any commercial motor vehicle for a period of one year.

The bill increases these penalties for anyone operating a commercial motor vehicle as follows: (1) for a conviction of negligent homicide with a motor vehicle, it increases the fine from up to \$1,000 to a fine of up to \$2,500 and (2) it increases the period of disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle from one year to up to two years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 38 – Emissions Inspections for Composite Motor Vehicles

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF; EF - Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; EF=Enterprise Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is a minimal revenue impact, less than \$1,000, as a result of this section exempting composite motor vehicles from emissions inspection. There are less than 100 such vehicles processed through safety inspections by DMV.

OLR Analysis

The bill exempts composite motor vehicles that have met the requirements for a safety inspection by the DMV from the emissions inspection program. A composite motor vehicle is one composed or assembled from several parts of other motor vehicles, or the identification and body contours of which are so altered that the vehicle no longer bears the characteristics of any specific make of motor vehicle. Any vehicle not assembled by a manufacturer licensed in Connecticut is classified as a composite motor vehicle.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

§ 39 – Safe Driving Practices Courses Requirement for All New Licensees

OFA Fiscal Impact

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This section of the bill is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

OLR Analysis

The bill requires anyone getting a driver's license in Connecticut for the first time to present a certificate of successful completion of a course of at least four hours covering safe driving practices, including (1) the nature and the medical, biological, and physiological effects of alcohol and drugs on a driver; (2) the dangers of operating a vehicle under the influence; and (3) the penalties for alcohol and drug related motor vehicle violations. Currently, only 16- and 17- year olds have to complete a safe driving course before licensure. The course must be at least eight hours in length with a four-hour alcohol and drug component.

Under the bill, any new licensee age 18 or older would have to take at least a four hour safe driving course before licensure. This applies to everyone applying for a new license, including someone from another state who takes up residence in Connecticut and converts his out-of-state license to a Connecticut license and a Connecticut resident who allows his license to lapse for a period of more than two years.

The safe driving practices course is usually provided through the services of a licensed commercial driving school or driver education program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/16/2007)